This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

NYPL RESEARCH LIBRARIES
3 3433 07589370 5

[COLLECTANEA ADAMANTÆA.]

THE

Chronicles of London.

COLLECTANEA ADAMANTÆA. X.

THE

Chronicles of London

FROM

44 HEN. III. TO 17 EDW. III.

TRANSLATED FROM A MS. IN THE COTTONIAN LIBRARY,

BY

EDMUND GOLDSMID, F.R.H.S.
F.S.A. (Scot.)

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

PRIVATELY PRINTED.
EDINBURGH
1885

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
P37154
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.
1899.

This edition is limited to 400 *small-paper copies,*
and 75 *large-paper copies.*

NEW YORK
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Introduction.

"THE Manuscript from which the following Chronicle of London has been transcribed forms the latter portion of a small parchment book in octavo, preserved among the Cottonian Manuscripts (Cleopatra, A. VI.), and commences at folio 54. It is written in the old Norman French, and from the handwriting appears to have been compiled about the middle of the fourteenth century, but unfortunately no clue exists by which the name of the writer can be ascertained. The period which it embraces is from the 44th of Henry III. to the 17th of Edward III., and at the commencement of each year are recorded the names of the mayors and sheriffs of London."[1]

With these words Mr. Aungier begins his introduction to the original text of the Chronicle

[1] Mr. Aungier's Introduction to the Norman-French Text, published by him for the Camden Society.

of London. The present editor has always regretted that this edition should have been issued without a translation: the ancient Norman-French in which the MS. is written is almost incomprehensible to all but one who has made this dialect his special study, and the interest therefore of the Chronicle is much diminished. It is in the hope of being useful to many who, till now, have been unable to make use of this valuable MS., that the present translation has been undertaken.

A desire to render the following pages more attractive to the general reader, has induced the editor to insert most of the copious notes added by Mr. Aungier to his edition; and, in a few instances, he has subjoined illustrations or explanations of his own, where it appeared to him that the text was in need of such elucidation.

The following description of old London and her inhabitants, during the period embraced by the chronicle, an era in every respect as important as any in our annals, may not be thought uninteresting; it is quoted from Mr. Aungier's Introduction:—

"Proceeding eastward along the Strand,[1] the

[1] At a very early period, the *Strand*, it appears formed a part of the banks of the Thames, and remained *as a strand* after all other parts in the vicinity of the growing London had lost their native character and appearance. In 1315 it is stated that

visitor in the 14th century would approach the outer barrier of the city, which marked the extent of its liberties; and which, from the adjoining magnificent house of the Templars, was named Temple Bar. Passing this barrier, which from the name constantly used in old documents seems to have been merely a bar, he would enter Fleet Street, at this period not devoted to any particular trade, but abounding in shops, and surrounded by a populous neighbourhood; then, passing on the right hand the noble convent of the White Friars, he approached, not a broad street, but a river, tolerably broad, and with a very rapid current, from whence was derived its name, the Fleet,[1]

---

the footway at the entrance of Temple Bar, and from thence to the Palace of Westminster, was so bad that the feet of horses, and rich and poor men, received constant damage, particularly in the rainy season; at the same time the footway was interrupted by *thickets and bushes*. The sites of two of the bridges in the line of the Strand at that period are marked out and preserved by the names given to the lanes through which their channels found way,—Ivy-bridge Lane and Strand-bridge Lane, opposite the end of Newcastle Street. (Knight's London.)

[1] The Fleet has its origin in the high grounds of that most beautiful of heaths, Hampstead; nor did its waters for some centuries belie the place of their birth. From Hampstead it passed by Kentish Town, Camden Town, and the old church of St. Pancras, towards Battle Bridge, in the neighbourhood of which place an anchor is said to have been found, from which it is

and which at this period was crowded with small vessels laden chiefly with lime and charcoal, and bound to the wharfs which extended as far as Battle Bridge, now called King's Cross. Crossing Fleet Bridge, he would now enter Ludgate Street; and, passing on the right hand the large convent of the Blackfriars, whose fine gardens extended down to the Thames, he crossed the draw-bridge that spanned the wide city ditch, and, passing beneath King Lud's gate, entered the city. There the wide street of Ludgate opened to his view the west front of London's chief ornament, St. Paul's church. Quitting this noble structure, and passing along the churchyard, which was open for passengers during the day, the spectator would enter the 'West-Cheape,' a wide and almost triangular area, formed by the street now called Cheapside; and a field named in old records the Crownsild, which seems to have extended along the southern side near the top, and also included part of what is now Paternoster Row. In the midst of this

inferred, that vessels must have anciently passed from the Thames so far up the river. It next directed its course past Bagnigge Wells and the House of Correction, towards the valley at the back of Mount Pleasant, Warner Street and Saffron Hill, and so to the bottom of Holborn. Here it received the waters of the Old Bourne (whence the name Holborn) which rose near Middle Row, and the channel of which forms the sewer of Holborn Hill to this day.

vacant space stood the Standard, an ancient stone cross; and around it were stands, where the sellers of fish and vegetables, and the butchers from the neighbouring shambles, in blue frocks, and holding pole-axes, sold their wares;[1] while the houses and shops that surrounded this market-place were inhabited by the goldsmiths, the pepperers, the mercers, and the linen armourers. Although the shops were unglazed, and the expensive fittings-up of modern times unknown, still West-Chepe, even at this period, is said to have presented a splendid appearance.[2] Proceeding eastward along West-

[1] In the time of Henry III. the inquest of the Ward of Chepe present "that from the ancient days of the kingdom, the people were accustomed to hold a market in West Chepe, as of corn, bread, fish, vegetables, flesh, and many other kinds of merchandise; but that Henry Walies, who was mayor, ejected almost all from the fair, to the injury of the king, the city, and the whole community." In consequence of their representation, we find that the market was soon after restored.

[2] The Cheapside of the present day, and the "West-Chepe" of the 14th century, is not merely altered in name; the high footpath, supported by huge piles of wood, is replaced by a smooth pavement; the picturesque dwellings, with their acute and quaintly carved gables and overhanging stories, have made way for uninteresting lines of brickwork; "the greate cross" has been demolished; and the "great conduite" is no more. It takes its name from the Saxon word *Chepe*, signifying a market, and was called "West-Chepe," to distinguish it from another market called "East-Chepe."

Chepe, the graceful cross of Queen Alianor, at the top of Wood Street, appeared; then the handsome church of St. Mary-le-Bow; and lower, on the opposite side, the chapel of St. Thomas of Acons; and further on, Serne's tower.[1] On the site of the present Mansion-house was the Stocks-market, a smaller and inferior market to that of West-Chepe; and beyond, Cornhill, for centuries the mart for clothing and household furniture, from the convenience of its situation to the braziers of Lothbury, the great manufacturers of kitchen utensils, and the tailors and linen armourers of Coleman Street and the adjacent parts, the exclusive makers of both linen and woollen clothing; and Lombard Street, then the residence of foreign merchants. The line along Lombard Street and West-Chepe was the chief road through the city; and, on account of its width, its noble appearance, and the wealth of its inhabitants, it became the highway along which every procession to the tournament, to the coronation, or to the royal funeral, passed. The second road through the city seems to have been the only way in Saxon times; it led

[1] Serne's Tower, in Bucklersbury, was a royal mansion. Edward III., in the 18th year of his reign, probably from its vicinity to Lombard Street, made it his exchange for bullion. In 1358 he gave the same tower to his free chapel of St. Stephen at Westminster. (Stowe.)

along Old Fish Street, where, until the 14th century, the chief fish-market was held, along Wathe-ling Street, passing Tower Royal[1] into Candlewick Street, for so many centuries the residence of the wealthy drapers, who seem to have been bound by strong ties to a spot placed beneath the protection of their patroness St. Mary Bothaw, and close beside the highly valued 'London Stone.'[2] Next was East Chepe, the old Saxon

[1] Tower Royal, now inhabited by speculating merchants, derives its designation from being the site of a fortress of impregnable strength; but by whom built is not known. During the turbulent and eventful reign of King Stephen, it was occupied as a stronghold for himself and his Flemish mercenaries; and, although in the present day scarcely a sound of the busy metropolis can be heard, at that period it echoed with the loud neighing of the war-horse, the heavy tread of the mail-clad warrior, and the din and clash of arms. During the reign of Richard II., according to Stowe, it was called the Queen's Wardrobe.

[2] The recorded history of "London Stone" reaches beyond the Conquest. According to Stowe, it is mentioned as a land-mark in a list of rents belonging to Christ's Church in Canterbury, at the end of "a fair written Gospel book," given to that foundation by the West Saxon king Athelstane, who reigned from 925 to 941. Camden, with great probability considers this famous Stone, which still remains within a niche placed against the south wall of St. Swithin's church in Cannon Street, as the central *Milliarium*, or milestone, similar to that in the Forum at Rome, from which the chief British highroads radiated, and the

market, celebrated from the time of Fitz-Stephen to the days of Lydgate, for the abundance and variety of the provisions sold there. This street communicated with New Fish Street, where at this period a very large market, both for fresh and salt fish, was held, and which joined the bridge, which at this time, and for centuries after, was thickly crowded with houses. The more eastern parts of the city seem to have been remarkable for trade. A large number of foreigners, basket-makers, and wire drawers, were about this time, according to Stowe, located in Blanche-Appleton Court, near Leadenhall Street; and we also find that many artisans, employed in the inferior trades, dwelt round about. At the east end of the city

distances on them were reckoned. It stood anciently on the south side of Candlewyke Street (Cannon Street), pitched upright near the channel or kennel, according to Stowe, who adds, that it was "fixed in the ground very deep, fastened with bars of iron, and otherwise so strongly set that if carts do run against it through negligence the wheels be broken and the stone itself unshaken." It is now reduced, judging from what may be seen of it, to much less than its original size. We owe the preservation of this ancient and venerable relic to Mr. Thomas Maiden, of Sherbourn Lane, printer, who, it is said, when St. Swithin's Church was about to undergo a repair in 1798, prevailed on the parish officers to consent that the stone should be placed where it still remains, after it had been doomed to destruction as a nuisance. (Knight's London.)

was the Tower, called by Fitz-Stephen the 'Palatine Tower.'

"But if the eastern part of London could not vie in wealth and importance with West-Chepe, in the number and splendour of its conventual establishments it yielded to none. The priory of the Holy Trinity, founded by Queen Maud, consort of Hen. I. in the year 1108, for canons regular of the order of St. Augustin, and said to be the wealthiest in England, stood just within Aldgate; not far distant was the house of the nuns of St. Clare, brought into England by Blanche, Queen of Navarre, who was wife to Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, Leicester, and Derby, about A.D. 1293; and near that the convent of the 'Fratres Sancti Crucis,' which has given its name to Crutched Friars; and the abbey founded by King Edward III. of St. Mary of Grace, near the Tower, after he had encountered a tempest at sea. In Bishopsgate Street was the priory of the nuns of St. Helen; on the site of Spitalfields Church was the great hospital of St. Mary Spital, founded by Walter Brune, citizen of London, and Rosia his wife, in 1235; while just withinside the city wall rose the equally noble foundation of Simon Fitz-Mary, sheriff of London in 1246, the hospital or priory of St. Mary of Bethlehem, afterwards converted into a house or hospital for the reception of lunatics.

"Returning to the foot of the bridge, to the west, close by the water-side, the stockfishmongers had their dwellings; close beside, were the large warehouses, and stone hall, and tall watch-tower, of the merchants of the Steelyard;[1] next, the stately mansion of Cold Harbour; and then the great stone houses of the merchants of the Vintry, and their extensive quay, crowded with shipping; further on, Queenhithe, a large public wharf for salt and corn; then a series of wharves; and at the west angle of the city wall arose two well fortified castles, Baynard's Castle and the Tower of Montfichet.[2] Beyond were the gardens of the Blackfriar's convent, the mouth of the Fleet, the ancient palace of Bridewell, an occasional royal residence even from the Conquest, and the garden of the Whitefriars and the Temple. The western liberties

[1] For many particulars relating to the Steel-yard and its merchants, see Strype's, Stowe's and Pennant's Accounts of London, and especially Hakluyt's Collection of Voyages.

[2] Baynard's Castle was built by a nobleman named Baynard, a follower of the Conqueror. In 1198 it came into the possession of Robert FitzWalter, who played a conspicuous part in the barons' wars in the time of King John, and was "castilian and banner-bearer of London." Castle Baynard Ward derives its name from this celebrated building. The Tower of Montfichet was built by a nobleman named "Le Sire Mountfichet," also a follower of the Conqueror. It was totally destroyed about the year 1276.

of the city seem to have been very populous. The space between Fleet Street and Holborn was inhabited chiefly by smiths and tanners; on each side of the river Fleet were the wharves of the lime-burners, and dealers in charcoal and sea-coal.[1] The butchers dwelt nearly on the site of Newgate Market; and turners of beads, and scribes, both in the neighbourhood of Chancery Lane and of Paternoster Row.

"Like the north-eastern, the north-western quarter was crowded with religious houses. On the spot where that most excellent establishment

[1] The historiographers of the City of London relate, that about the close of the reign of King Edward I. the trades of that city, which required much fuel, first began to use sea-coal, such as dyers, brewers, &c., against which practice several of the nobility, gentry, and others, complained to the king, as being a public nuisance, when he granted a commission of inquiry into the same: in consequence of which he issued a severe proclamation against the use of sea-coals, under the penalty of fines, &c. Those trades, however, finding the scarcity and price of wood-fuel daily increasing, found it their interest to make use of sea-coal; and, notwithstanding this prohibition they soon after were under the necessity of being supplied with that fuel from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. In the Parliament Roll of 15 and 16 Edward II. is a petition relating to this article of Richard del Hurst of London, who prays for payment of 10s. for the sea-coal (carboun de meer) ordered for the coronation feast of Edward II. (Rot. Parl. i. 405.)

Christ's Hospital now stands, was the noble and richly-endowed house of the Grey Friars, with its splendid church, inferior in size and grandeur to the metropolitan cathedral alone, beneath whose lofty and fretted roof four queens,[1] and other persons of rank almost innumerable, reposed amid the escutcheoned pomp of departed greatness. Near it the wealthy priory and hospital of St. Bartholomew, founded by the pious Rahere, and endowed by the virtuous Queen Maud; and, just beyond, the munificence of Sir Walter Manny, a few years after, founded the Carthusian Priory, which now bears the name of the Charter House. To the north, just within the city gate, was the Saxon foundation of St. Martin's, well named 'le Grand,' from its large and abundant privileges. Withoutside the gate was the mansion of the Duke of Britany, which has given its name to Little Britain; while from thence to the wide moor of Finsbury the numerous streets and alleys were occupied by the lower orders of artificers—curriers, bowyers, and bowstring makers.

[1] Margaret wife of Edward I., Isabella wife of Edward II., Joan Queen of Scots, daughter of Edward II., and Isabella Queen of Man. There was, besides the heart of a fifth queen, Alianor, wife of Henry III. and also the heart of king Edward II. See the Register of all the inscriptions existing in this church, temp. Henry the VIII. printed in the Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica, vol. V.

"Such was London—the "lady of the kingdoms"—the modern Tyre, during the fourteenth century; and if it might scarcely be recognised by the inhabitants of the present day, far less would its suburbs. To the west and the north wide tracts of forest land, covering that large space on which in late years a complete town has been built; to the east a succession of moors and green marshes; while, nearer at hand, there was the stately palace of Westminster, rising from the water's edge, with the adjoining convent and abbey, standing almost alone. Then the hermitage of Charing, looking toward the noble mansion of the Archbishop of York, now Whitehall;[1] and the

[1] Whitehall, or rather the palace, for that name was unknown untill after Wolsey's time, was originally built by Hubert de Burgh, the eminent but persecuted Justiciary of England, during the reign of Henry III. He bequeathed it to the convent of Black Friars in Holborn, and they sold it to Walter de Grey, Archbishop of York, in 1248. From that time it was called York House, and remained for nearly three centuries the residence of the prelates of that see. The last archiepiscopal owner was Wolsey. Fiddes, in his Life of that prelate, says he built a great part of York House, and it has been supposed that among these erections a "White Hall, properly so called, was erected by Wolsey, and obtained its name from the freshness of its appearance, when compared with the ancient buildings of York House;" and hence the origin of the present appellation.

Leper House of St. Giles, literally "in the fields," and the simple church of St. Martin, with its equally appropriate title, and the meadow land, and gentle slopes, intersected by the rapid Fleet, which extended from St. Giles-in-the-Fields to the Elm-trees, on the western side of Smithfield. Due northward arose the stately mansion of the Knights of St. John, a palace of size and splendour, and beside it the priory of the nuns of Clerkenwell, founded A.D. 1100 by Jordan Briset, a knight or baron. Beyond, the little village of Iseldune (Islington) peeped from the surrounding woods; nearer, but more to the east, was the village of Hochestone (Hoxton), amid corn-fields and windmills; then the green moorlands of Finsburie, with the holy well of St. Agnes, and, close adjoining, the priory of the nuns of Haliwell, founded before 1127 by Roger Fitz-Gelran. From hence the eye ranged over wide tracts of meadow land to the grey tower of the distant church of Stibenhede (Stepney), while the massive keep of the Tower and the spires of St. Katharine closed the view. Although each successive generation brought alterations, there were comparatively few important additions for full two centuries. During the fifteenth the erection of Guildhall, which until then was a mean and low building, in Aldermanbury, (a site known by that name in the year 1189); the opening of

Moorgate, and the planting of Moorfields; the building of many of the city companies' halls, and that beautiful row of houses which extended along the upper south side of Westchepe, between Bread Street and the Cross, called "Goldsmiths'-row," built by Thomas Wood, goldsmith, and sheriff in 1491, were the chief improvements. In the following century London fell far below her ancient splendour; and the fire of London in the seventeenth only completed the ruin which the sixteenth century had begun."

The present editor claims no merit beyond that of a translator: he fears that even in this work many shortcomings will be observable, but he trusts to the good nature of his readers, and to their appreciation of the difficulties of his task.

EDMUND GOLDSMID.

EDINBURGH, *4th June* 1885.

THE

Chronicles of London,

FROM

44 HEN. III. TO 17 EDW. III.

xliiij. William Fitz-Richard, mayor. Henry of Coventry and Adam Broning, sheriffs.

In this year two Romans were killed in West-Chepe, to wit, Masters Johan le Gras and Beisantyn, by strangers. This year a quarrel arose between Prince Edward and Richard, Earl of Gloucester, wherefore the gates of London were closed and guarded by armed men for full five weeks and more, for the king was beyond the

sea to cement an alliance with the king of France.[1]

xlv. The said William, mayor. Johan de Northampton and Richard Pikard, sheriffs.

In this year, on the eve of St. John, there escaped from Newgate, Roger de Clere, Geoffrey de Toucester, Johan de St. Alban, Johan de York, and three others, for which Roger, the jailor, was taken and imprisoned in Newgate.

xlvi. The said William, mayor. Philip le Tailour and Richard de Walbrok, sheriffs.

xlvii. Thomas Fitz-Thomas, mayor.[2] Robert de Montpellier and Hubert de Suffolk, sheriffs.

---

[1] This quarrel is thus noticed in MS. Cott. Vitellius, A. xvi. f. 7b. "The kyng and the quene and other barons and lordes went ovyr the see into Fraunce, and there thei dwelled half a yere and more with grete honoure and love, so that he hadde no will homeward, but the lordes and comons of England treded so fayre and saide but yf he wold come home they wold chese them a newe kyng, for there was grete discorde bytwene Sir Edward the kynges sone and Sir Richard Earle of Gloucestre, so that alle Englond was moeved unto werre, and so the kyng byfore Whitsontyde come into Englonde, and so to London, and he lay in the bisshoppys palice of London unto the time that it was peace throughe Englonde." See also *Maitland's Hist. of London*, i. 93. *Lingard*, iii. 127.

[2] He served the office of mayor from 1262 to 1265 inclusive, and again in 1269.

In this year began the war between the king and his barons about the provisions of Oxford.[1] Soon was taken the Bishop of Hereford by the barons.[2]

In this year was the new hall of Westminster burnt.[3]

[1] The Provisions of Oxford, as they were called, extorted from Henry the Third by Simon de Montfort, led to a civil war which had almost subverted the government, and actually proved the ruin of many noble families. (Carte, ii. 252). In London the aldermen and some of the principal citizens were devoted to the king, but the mayor and the populace openly declared for the barons. Fitz Thomas being a partisan of the Earl of Leicester, a convention for their mutual security had been signed by that officer and the commonalty of the city on the one part, and the earls of Leicester, Gloucester, and Derby, Hugh le Despenser, the grand justiciary, and twelve barons on the other. In the different wardmotes, every male inhabitant above twelve years of age was sworn a member of the association; a constable and marshal of the city were appointed, and orders were given, that, at the sound of the great bell at St. Paul's, all should assemble in arms, and obey the authority of their officers. *Lingard*, iii. 134.

[2] Peter de Egeblaunch, or Egueblank, a Frenchman, elected 24 Aug. 1240. He was drawn out of his cathedral by Thomas Turbervill and others, and sent to the castle of Erdesley. His treasure was spoiled, and his canons imprisoned. He died 27 Nov. 1268.

[3] This event is thus recorded in the *Liber de Antiquis Legibus*, f. 73b. (MS. Harl. 690). "Anno eodem (1262) septimo die Februar. combust. sunt proprio igne

This year was the queen rudely hooted and insulted at the bridge of London, as she wished to go from the Tower to Westminster,[1] because she had caused to be killed a gentle maiden, the most beautiful man ever knew, and whom she believed to be the concubine of the king. Wherefore the queen caused her to be seized and stripped naked, and caused her to be placed between two great fires in a chamber very closely shut in, so that the very beautiful maiden was much exhausted, for she believed she would be burned up, and so began to make great lamentation. And meanwhile the queen had caused a bath to be prepared, and then made the beautiful maiden enter therein, and caused a wicked hag to strike the beautiful maiden with a lance on both arms, and as soon as the blood spurted out, came another infernal witch, who carried two horrible toads on a stool, and placed them on the breasts of the gentle maiden, and soon they seized her breasts and began to suck,

---

suo parva aula domini regis apud Westmon. camera et capella et recept. et aliæ plures domus offic."

[1] This incident, marking the coarse manners of the age, and queen Eleanor's unpopularity, occurred according to Lingard on the 14th June. The story of Rosamond, which follows, appears to be an abridgement of some romance or legend, and the writer of the Chronicle has erroneously supposed it had reference to Henry the Third instead of Henry the Second.

and two other old women held her arms extended, so that the beautiful maiden could not sink in the water before the blood which was in her body had flowed out. And meanwhile the filthy toads sucked the breasts of the very beautiful maiden, and the queen, laughing, mocked her, and had great joy in her heart that she was thus avenged of Rosamund; and when she was dead she caused the body to be taken and buried in a filthy ditch, and the toads with the body. But when the king had heard the news how the Queen had treated the lovely maiden whom he so loved, and was so dear to his heart, great sorrow and lamentation did he make. "Alas! woe! what shall I do for lovely Rosamond? For never was her equal found in beauty, natural charms and courtesy." And when he had long made like lamentation, he wished to know what had become of the body of the beautiful maiden. Then the king caused one of the wicked witches to be seized and had her put to great torture, in order to make her tell the truth as to what they had done with the beautiful maiden, and swore by God omnipotent that if she lied in one word she should suffer the most horrible sentence that man could pronounce. Then began the hag to speak and to tell the king all the truth, what the queen had done to the beautiful body of the

gentle maiden, and in what place it would be found. And meanwhile, the queen had caused the body of the lovely maiden to be taken up, and ordered them to carry the body to a religious house, which is named Godstow, two leagues from Oxford, and there to bury the body of Rosamund to hide her evil actions, so that no one should perceive the filthy and villainous deeds which the queen had done, and to excuse herself for the death of the lovely maiden. And then King Henry began to ride towards Woodstock, where Rosamund, whom he had so fondly loved in his heart, had been so treacherously murdered by the queen; and as the king rode towards Woodstock, he met the dead body of Rosamund tightly enclosed within a coffin strongly bound with iron. And the king asked whose body that was, and what was the name of the dead body they carried. Then they answered him that this was the body of lovely Rosamund. And when King Henry heard this, he ordered imperiously that they should open the coffin, so that he might see the body which had been so shamefully martyred. Then they did the command of the king, and showed him the body of Rosamund who had been so hideously put to death. And when King Henry saw the truth, for great grief he fell to earth, and long lay in a trance ere anyone could obtain speech from him.

And when the king recovered from his swoon, he said, and swore a great oath, that he would be avenged of the infamous felony which had, through great jealousy, been done to the gentle maiden. Then began the king to lament and mourn greatly for lovely Rosamund whom he so loved in his heart. "Alas! woe!" said he, "sweet Rosamund, never was there thine equal, never was there so sweet and so lovely a creature seen: therefore gentle God who art in Trinity, of the soul of sweet Rosamund have mercy, and forgive her all her sins; true God omnipotent, who art the end and the beginning, suffer not that her soul perish in any horrible torment, and grant her true remission of all her sins, through Thy great mercy." And when he had thus prayed, he ordered them to go straight to Godstow with the body of the unfortunate maiden, and caused her burial to take place in that holy house of nuns, and there ordered thirteen chaplains to chaunt for the repose of the soul of the said Rosamund so long as time endures. In this holy house of Godstow, I tell you in truth, lies buried lovely Rosamund. True God omnipotent, on her soul have mercy. Amen.

xlviij. Thomas Fitz-Thomas, mayor. Gregory de Rokesby and Thomas de la Forde, sheriffs.

In this year, on the 4th and 5th of the Ides of April, took place the massacre of the Jews

in London.[1] In the same year, on the 6th of the Ides of May, was the great fire in Westcheap, of Milk Street and Bread Street.[2] And on the following day was the battle of Lewis,[3] that is to say the Wednesday before the feast of St. Dunstan. In this year was seen in the heavens, a star which is called a comet.[4] At the same time were great fires in England, and Isleworth was burnt and Jewry destroyed.[5]

[1] According to Fabyan and Maitland, this barbarous massacre took place on the plea, real or pretended, that one of that persecuted race had endeavoured to extort more than legal interest (twopence a week for twenty shillings) from a Christian; upwards of five hundred Jews were cruelly put to death by the populace, and their houses and synagogues, which Henry had permitted them to build in the beginning of his reign, were destroyed. An account of this transaction will be found in the *Liber de Antiquis Legibus*, f. 83.

[2] Stowe (*Annales*, f. 194, ed. Howes) observes, "About that time a great part of Westcheape in London was brent *by treason*.

[3] The battle of Lewes, gained by Simon de Montfort against the royalists on the 14th of May, 1264, interested the Londoners, more than three thousand of whom, who sided with Leicester, are said to have been slain on the field.

[4] See Stowe (*Annales*, f. 195, ed. Howes).

[5] The baronial party in London, under the direction of two citizens, Thomas de Punelesdon and Stephen Buckerell, destroyed the property of all opposed to them, not exempting even the private dwellings of the king and his brother. They wantonly burnt the

xlix. The said Thomas, Mayor. Edward le Blount, draper, and Piers Aunger, sheriffs.

In this year there were great thunderstorms in England, and by a storm was part destroyed of the Tower of St. Bartholomew in London.[1]

In this year, on the 1st of August, part of the the Barons who maintained the Provisions of Oxford were taken at Kenilworth in company of Simon de Montfort the younger,[2] and the

country house of the latter in Isleworth, near the Thames, levelled his fences, uprooted his orchards, and cut through the head of a large fish-pond lately made at a vast expense. (*Chron. Wikes*, p. 59). They also burnt another of his houses near Westminster. For this outrage, when the king had suppressed the rebellion of the barons, he obliged the citizens to pay a fine of 1000 marks to the Earl of Cornwall as compensation.

[1] Mr. Halliwell, in his preface to Rishanger's Chronicle, p. xxxiv, printed for the Camden Society, has collected several extracts, taken from inedited MSS. relative to the tremendous hurricanes and storms which took place throughout England on the eve of the battle of Evesham.

[2] It appears that Simon de Monfort the younger, and his knights, on the night of the 1st August, slept out of the castle of Kenilworth for the sake of bathing in the morning, whereby to make them more alert in battle. Edward, upon being informed of this circumstance by a spy, surprised them in their beds about sunrise; twelve bannerets, with all their followers, were made prisoners, and their horses and treasures repaid the industry of the captors. Simon alone with

following Tuesday took place the battle of Evesham, on the eve of the feast of St. Oswald.[1]

l. Sir Hugh Fitz-Otto was made governor of London, and the mayor and sheriffs abolished for five years, because the city had supported the barons. In this year, Stephen Bokerel, Thomas de Penlesland, Michael Thony, goldsmith; John, the hatter of the fleet, and others, were summoned, by letter of King Henry, to come to him at Winchester, and as soon as they were come, the king commanded that they should be thrown into prison, and the king gave them to Sir Edward, his son, and he detained them in prison until each had ransomed himself, by which means they gave great possessions to Sir Edward before they were released, and Sir Edward would have given a great part of their land to his knights, in disinheritance of them and their heirs for ever, if they had not repurchased it with their money.

li. William Fitz Richard, governor. John Adrian, and Walter Harvey, bailiffs. And this William

his pages escaped naked into the castle. (See Chron. Thomæ Wikes, p. 69. Chron de Mailros, 230, 231.)

[1] For an account of the battle of Evesham and death of Simon de Montfort, together with the miracles ascribed to him after his death, see Rishanger's Chronicle (ut supra), Tindal's Hist. of Evesham, pp. 305 et seq. and Lee's Hist. of Lewes, &c. pp. 165, 166.)

Fitz Richard was only governor for the king from the feast of St. Martin to the day of the Ascension.[1] And the said John Adrian and Walter Harvey were made bailiffs, under Sir John de la Lynde,[2] and Sir John Walravene, who was constable of the Tower, until the feast of St. Michael. In this year on the Feast of the Holy Cross in August, Sir Edward Trayner made Gervoise Skyret prisoner, who was taken from the cemetery of St. Sepulchre, for the death of Giles de Wodeham, for which

[1] From the various fortunes of the barons' wars the citizens derived very little advantage. On the final restoration of the king's power in 1265 they underwent a series of misfortunes and indignities, compared with which their former grievances were light and easy. The city lost its liberties—its posts and chains (the tokens of its freedom) were taken away, and, as already observed, Thomas fitz Thomas, the mayor, and chief citizens were imprisoned, and left to the mercy of the king. The houses of the principal citizens concerned in the barons' insurrections were pillaged and given away, with all their lands and goods that they were possessed of in any part of the kingdom. As an atonement for past offences, the king finally demanded sixty thousand marks, an immense sum at that period, although he consented afterwards to take twenty thousand. The city at length recovered its privileges, though four years elapsed before all its rights were completely restored. (Liber de Antiq. Legibus, f. 96, et seq.)

[2] Sir John de la Lynde and Sir John Walravene succeeded Fitz-Otto as custodes of the city.

Master Jeffrey de St. Dunstan suffered great persecution for the freedom of Holy Church. In the same year, after the Feast of Trinity, began the siege of Kenilworth, and continued to the Feast of St. Lucy, when the castle was surrendered. In the same year, about the feast of St. Michael, the disinherited (barons) conquered the isle of Ely.

lii. Still there was no mayor in London, but Johan Adrian and Lucas de Batencourt, bailiffs, under Sir Johan de la Lynde. In the same year, on the Monday before Candlemas, the king moved from Westminster to Waltham, intend- to go to Bury St. Edmund's to beseige the Isle of Ely.[1]

[1] While the king was employed in reducing a party of the late faction who had fortified themselves in the Isle of Ely, the City of London, as well as the whole kingdom, were once more thrown into confusion by the Earl of Gloucester, who, raising an army on the borders of Wales, and marching to London, was received by the citizens, many of whom, says Fabyan, "as men without drede of God or of theyr kynge," were ready again to join the standard of rebellion. Having got possession of the city, all the citizens who sided with the king were seized and imprisoned, and their goods confiscated. The magistrates were degraded, and Robert de Linton and Roger Marshall were made bailiffs; Sir Richard de Culworth being appointed high bailiff of the city by the Earl of Gloucester. All those who had been outlawed on account of the late rebellion returned, and were

liii. Willliam Fitz-Richard, Governour. Walter Hervi and William de Durham, bailiffs. And in the same month, in the Parliament at Winchester, Philip le Taylour and Walter le Porter were made sheriffs. And, by consent of the Prelates, Earls, and Barons, the king gave his cross to Sir Edward his son, so that he might go, in his own name and in that of his father to the Holy Land, and granted him the twentieth of whatever sum was raised in England. And after the twentieth day of August, he and his wife and many great Lords of the land passed the sea at Dover as Crusaders. Afterwards Walter and Philip were removed from their office of Sheriffs, and Gregory de Rokesby and Henry Waleis were made Sheriffs by the citizens.

liv. Sir Hugh Fitz-Otho, Governour. Thomas de Basing and Robert de Cornhill, bailiffs.

lv. Sir Hugh Fitz-Otho, Governour. Walter le Porter ahd Philip le Taylour, sheriffs.

---

graciously received, and those who were imprisoned for the same were set free. This rebellion, however, being suppressed, the king by his precept reinstated John Adrian and Lucas de Batencourt in their office of bailiffs, as also all those aldermen who had been displaced from their wards; and shortly after Sir Alan la Zouche was made constable of the Tower and custos of the city by the king at St. Paul's Cross before all the people. (*Liber de Antiquis Legibus*, f. 107—111. Pat. 51 Hen. III. m. 15. MS. addit. 5444, f. 81.)

lvi. Johan Adrian, Mayor. Gregory de Rokesby and Henry Waleis, sheriffs.

In this year, the steeple of St. Mary Arch fell to the ground.[1]

lvii. Walter Hervi, mayor. Johan de Bodely and Richard de Paris, cordwainers, sheriffs.

The which Walter Hervi was made mayor by the election of the commons against the will of the Aldermen. He remained mayor the following year.[2] In this year died King Henry, on the feast of St. Edmund of Pounteneye, and on the feast

[1] According to MS. Add. 5444, f. 85, it appears that many persons were killed through this occurrence, "Eodem anno campanile lapideum beatæ Mariæ de arcubus in Foro London cecidit super magnam domum juxta ecclesiam, et oppressit quosdam viros ac mulieres."

[2] A similar transaction to that which took place in 1262-3 also occurred during this year (1272), 57 Hen. III. The *aldermanni et discretiores civitatis* elected Philip le Taylor as mayor against the wishes or will of the "vulgus," who set up Walter Hervey, an alderman, as their candidate, and forced him into the chair. The aldermen and the discreet men of their party appealed to the king and council, praying protection against the "*populus*" calling themselves the *communia* of the city. A compromise was, however, effected through the intervention of Walter de Merton, and other members of the king's council, by proposing a new election at St. Paul's Cross, when, with the assent of the aldermen, Hervey was continued in office for the year, after he had promised upon oath that he would not oppress or molest any person who had opposed his election. (Liber de Antiquis Legibus, f. 154b et seq.)

of St. Edmund, the king was buried at Westminster. And as soon as the burial was over, Sir Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, and all the other great lords of England rendered fealty and hommage to Sir Edward, son of King Henry, who was at that time in the Holy Land, on a pilgrimage, as I have said before.

Reign of Edward I.

The names of the Mayors and remarkable events in the reign of King Edward, son of King Henry.

i. Walter Hervi, Mayor. Johan Horn and Walter le Porter, sheriffs.

ii. Henry Waleis, Mayor. Henry de Coventry and Nicholas de Winchester, Sheriffs.

At this time, by Henry Waleis, was Walter Hervi removed from his office of Alderman. In this year came King Edward from the Holy Land, with his wife, and were crowned at Westminster the Sunday following the feast of the Assumption of our Lady, on the feast of St. Magnus, and the conduit in Cheap ran all day with red and white wine, so that he might drink who would.

iii. Gregory de Rokesly, mayor. Lucas de Battencourt and Henry de Frowik, sheriffs.

In this same year Adam de Bekke, canon of the Church of St. Paul, was killed the day before

St. Andrew's Eve. And in this year, the Saturday before the feast of St. Bartholomew (nineteen prisoners) escaped out of Newgate.[1] In the same year, at the octave of St. Martin, the assize judges sat at the Cross of St. Peter, that is to say, Masters Roger de Seton, Johan de Cobham, and Salomon de Rowcester.

iv. Gregory de Rokesly, mayor. John Horn and Ralph de Blount, goldsmith, sheriffs.

In the same year Michael Thoni, the younger, was convicted by the alderman, and hanged for murder and robbery.

v. Gregory de Rokesly, mayor. Ralph d'Arras and Ralph le Fevre, sheriffs.

In this year, on the eve of St. Vincent, Sir Johan Lovetot and Sir Roger Loveday sat at the house of Johan Fitz-Johan, to try those who were indicted by twelve officers for larceny, receiving stolen goods, and sweating coin, and only three were convicted, one man and two women. In this year the king went to Wales with his army, and the city of London sent him 100 crossbow men.

vi. Gregory de Rokesly, mayor. Johan, the son of Johan Adrian, and Walter de Cornwaleis,[2] sheriffs.

---

[1] "Eodem anno prisona de Neugate fuit fracta, et 19 carcerati evaserunt." MS. Add. 5444, f. 89.

[2] This name should be Lengleys, or Langley. (See MS. Lansd. 558, f. 204, and Stowe.)

In this year, the mayor was presented in the Tower of London to Sir Anthony de Bek,[1] and received by the king, and there took his oath. And the mayor received the sheriffs in the Guildhall, by order of the king, to save them from going to Wales. In this same year, Llewelyn surrendered to the king; and, to purchase peace, he gave him 50,000 marks sterling, and took an oath by the saints, to come twice each year to the king's Parliament; and then Llewelyn married the daughter of Sir Simon de Montfort, and in that year the said Llewelyn rendered homage to the king.[2]

vii. Gregory de Rokesly, mayor. William le Mazener and Robert de Basing, sheriffs.

[1] Archdeacon of Durham. Elected Bishop of Durham 9th July 1283; ob. 3 March, 1311. A memoir of this distinguished prelate may be found in Sir Harris Nicolas's "Siege of Carlaverock," p. 288.

[2] Llewelyn, prince of Wales, had been betrothed to Eleanor, daughter of his friend Simon de Montfort, before the battle of Evesham. In order that the marriage might be solemnized, the widowed countess of Leicester sent her into Wales, under the escort of her brother, Aimery de Montfort; but on her passage, near Bristol, the ship which carried her was captured, and, on their being taken before Edward, Aimery was committed to sure custody, and Eleanor retained at his court as his ward. In the negotiation which subsequently took place between the king and Llewelyn the fine of £50,000 was remitted, and the marriage consented to by Edward.

In this year the three war machines were made in the Tower. At this time the king of Scotland came to London to the king's Parliament from year to year, and had a very handsome residence between the dwellings of the Bishop of Chichester[1] and the Earl of Lancaster,[2] which is called the Savoy, without the bar of the new Temple. In the same year, at the octave of St. Martin, which was a Friday,[3] all the Jews of England were taken for sweating gold, and coining, and at the feast of St. Lucia following, all the goldsmiths of London, all the money-changers, and many of the good people of the town, were taken for the purchase of plate, and for the exchange of heavy money for light, and were indicted by the officers. And on the Monday following Epiphany, there sat at the Guildhall, for jail delivery, Sir Stephen de Pevensey, Sir Walter de Helyon, and Sir Johan de Cobham, and such as they chose to sit with them; and in consequence, 3 Christians and 293 Jews were drawn and hanged for clipping of

[1] Stephen de Berksteed. Appointed 20 June 1261. ob. 21 Oct. 1287.

[2] Edmund, second son of Henry III. Earl of Chester and Leicester, created Earl of Lancaster 30 June, 1267; Steward of England; ob. 1295.

[3] The original reads: "En mesme l'an, as outaves de Seint Martin qe fut par venderdi, ainz tierce, . . ."

coin.[1] The same year, the preaching brothers of London laid the foundation of their new

[1] During the reign of Edward I. the Jews were not only fined, taxed, imprisoned, and compelled to live in particular districts, as formerly, but the slightest defalcation in the payment of talliage, which was now levied on children as well as their parents, was punished by banishment. In such casee, the defaulter was compelled to appear at Dover before the expiration of three days, prepared for his migration. In 3 Edw. I. the statute *de Judaismo* was passed, which, though it abolished usury, placed the Jews on a more comfortable and secure footing than they had been in the reign of Edward's ancestors. It was not long, however, before the wrath of the king fell upon this devoted people, either through their own folly or the false accusations of their enemies. A general suspicion falling upon them that they were guilty of adulterating and clipping the coin, every Jew was seized upon in one day, viz. 17th Nov. 1279; and after full conviction, two hundred and eighty of them, both men and women, together with three Christians, received sentence of death at London, and were executed without mercy: besides great numbers in other parts. (Matt. Westm. p. 409.) Many more were retained in prison, and the records of that year abound with instances of the king's selling and granting their houses and lands, forfeited upon that occasion. This was but a prelude to their final banishment in 1290. The king seized upon all the real estates of the Jews in the kingdom, and banished the whole community for ever. (Rot. Claus. 18 Edw. I. m. 6. Pat. 18 Edw. I. m. 12, 14.) The Chronicle of London (MS. Arund. No. 19, f. 12^b in Coll. Arm.) says, "At the Feast of St. Martin there were

church at Castle Baynard, and Brother Robert of Kilwardby, Archbishop of Canterbury, was called by the apostolic see to be cardinal. And Brother Johan de Peckham, who was a friar minor, and a cardinal, was sent to England by the court of Rome to be consecrated Archbishop of Canterbury. In the same year was held the Round Table at Kylingworth.[1] In this year was the great fire of St. Botolf.[2] In this year a re-coinage took place at the Tower of London, and Gregory de Rokesly was Master of the Exchange for all England. In this year, talliage was levied on the 14th day of February in London for three years, but this was not taken before Shrovetide.

viii. Gregory de Rokesly, mayor. Thomas Box and Ralph de la More, sheriffs.

Jewis areest for treson and othere certeyn goldsmythis, and upon the Monday next after the Epiphanie thre cristin men of Ynglond and cc and iiij^{xx} and iij (*sic*) Jewis were drawe and an hongid."

[1] This took place on the occasion of the three sons (Edmund, William, and Geoffrey) of Roger de Mortimer being knighted by Edw. I. It was at these jousts that Maurice, eldest son of Maurice, second lord Berkeley, was killed. (Wright's Hist. of Ludlow, pp. 216, 217. Smythe's Lives of the Berkeleys, p. 103.)

[2] Boston, in Lincolnshire. This fire, which took place the 3 calend of August (30 July), destroyed the greater part of the town. "Eodem anno villa Sancti Botulphi fuit combusta." (MS. Addit. 5444, f. 92.)

In the same year, Johan de Chishull, bishop of London, died.

ix. Gregory de Rokesly, mayor. William de Farringdon and Nicholas de Winchester, sheriffs.

x. Henry Waleis, mayor. William Mazener and Richard de Chikewell, sheriffs.

In the same year, London Bridge was carried away by the great frost that happened.[1] In this same year the mayor first caused corn to be weighed on going to the mill, and flour returned; and he caused a hurdle to be provided to drag away those suffering from infectious diseases.

xi. Henry Waleis, mayor. Walter le Blount and Angecelin de Beteville, sheriffs.

In this year Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, was

[1] Stowe, in his "Annales," edited by Edmund Howes, London, 1631, fol., p. 201, tells us, though without mentioning his authority, that "from this Christmas till the purification of Our Lady, there was such a frost and snow as no man living could remember the like: wherethrough five arches of London Bridge, and all Rochester Bridge, were borne downe, and carried away with the streame; and the like hapned to many bridges in England. And not long after men passed over the Thames between Westminster and Lambeth, and likewise over the river of Medway, betweene Stroude and Rochester, dry shod. Fishes in ponds, and birds in woods, died for want of food." (See also MS. Addit. 5444, f. 93.)

taken and decapitated, and his head sent to the Tower of London;[1] and Sir Edward, son of King Edward, was born on the feast of St. Mark.

xii. Henry Waleis, mayor. Martin Box and Jordan Godchep, sheriffs.

In this year David, brother of Llewelyn, was drawn, hanged, and beheaded, and his head sent to the Tower of London. In the same year, for the death of Lawrence Ducket, who was hanged in the church of Our Lady at Bow, seven persons were drawn and hanged, viz.: Reynold de Lanfar, Robert Pinnot, Paul de Stybbenheth, Thomas Coronner, Johan de Tholosane, Thomas Russell, and Robert Scott; and a woman, Alice, at Bow, was burnt for the same deed; and Ralph Crepyn, Jordan Godchep, Gilbert le Clerk, and Geoffrey le Clerk,

[1] He was killed at a battle near Builth. His head was afterwards cut off, and forwarded to Edward at Rhuddlan, who ordered it to be sent to London. The citizens met the messenger who brought it, and conducted him into the city with drums and trumpets, and proceeded in grand cavalcade through Cheapside, with the head fixed upon a lance, with a chaplet or circle of silver, to verify or ridicule the prediction of Merlin, who told the prince that his head should one day pass through Cheapsipe adorned with a silver coronet. It was then fixed for the remainder of the day upon the pillory, and afterwards upon the Tower of London, crowned with a wreath of ivy.

were found guilty of felony and sent prisoners to the Tower.[1]

xiii. Gregory de Rokesly, mayor. Stephen de Cornhill and Robert de Rokesly, sheriffs.

---

[1] According to Stowe (Collections MS. Harl. 538, f. 13.), "Laurence Ducket, a citizen of London, havinge wounded another citizen, named Ralphe Cropin, in West Cheape, fled in to the churche of St. Mary Bow. Into the which churche entered in the night tyme certeyne evell persons, and slewe the sayd Lawrence lienge in the steple. Which mourdar beinge bewrayed, divers persons were therefore executed, the rest were sent to the Tower of London, from whence they escaped afterwards for money." Maitland says, "They hanged him in one of the windows in such a manner as even to deceive the coroner's jury; who, having sat upon the body, brought in their verdict self-murder; whereby Ducket's corpse was drawn from thence by the feet, and buried in a ditch without the city. But a boy, who lay with him that night, and during that barbarous action concealed himself, having ventured to give information against the murderers, many persons were apprehended; sixteen were hanged, and a woman (Alice atte Bowe, mistress to Ralph Crepyn, clerk, MS. Addit. 5444, f. 95.), the chief contriver of the said murder, was burnt alive." Stowe adds, that several rich persons implicated were *hanged by the purse*, after long imprisonment. Upon this occasion the church was placed under an interdict, and the doors and windows filled with thorns, until the stain of murder was effaced by purification. At the same time reparation was made to Ducket's remains, which were honestly deposited in the churchyard.

In this year, on the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul, the city of London was taken in hand by the king, for Gregory de Rokesly had given up the seal at Barking Church, and delivered it to Stephen Esshwy.

xiv. Sir Ralph de Sandwich, governor. Walter le Blount (pensioner) and Johan Wade, sheriffs.

In this year the king passed over into France, to an interview, to make peace between three kings.[1]

xv. Sir Ralph de Sandwich, governor. Thomas Cross and Walter Hautein, sheriffs.

In this year all the Jews of England were taken and imprisoned, and put to ransom, the day after the feast of Saints Philip and James.[2]

[1] According to Matthew of Westminster (p. 412), Philip IV. King of France, shortly after his father's death, sent ambassadors to King Edward, beseeching him to come over to assume the office of mediator between himself (Philip) and the kings of Arragon and Spain. Edward complied with his desire, and on the viii calends of July (25th July) passed the sea, attended by many bishops, earls, and barons, and was received honourably by the king and nobles of France, and conducted to St. Germains, where he staid some time, and demanded the lands which his grandfather King John had lost, and also obtained ten thousand pounds sterling of the king of France, to be yearly paid at the Tower of London, together with some arrears for Normandy. See also Rymer's *Fœdera* for the tedious negotiation on these subjects.

[2] The Jews incurred the king's displeasure, probably

xvi. The said Sir Ralph, governor. William de Hereford, and Thomas de Stanes, sheriffs.

xvii. Sir Johan de Bretton, governor. William de Betaigne and Johan de Canterbury, sheriffs.

In the same year the said Johan de Bretton was deposed, and the said Sir Ralph was made governor as before, and the king afterwards returned from abroad.

xviii. Sir Ralph de Sandwich, governor. Fulke de St. Esmonde and Salomon Coteller, sheriffs.

In the same year, all the justices were taken and put to ransom for their treason. Soon after the last Sunday in April, the Earl of Gloucester married Dame Joan of Acres,[1] daughter of the king, at Westminster. In the same year, John, son of the Duke of Brabant, married Margaret,

---

by their objection to the payment of a tallage; in consequence of which, on the morrow of St. Philip and St. James (2 May), the whole race, without exception of age or sex, were by the king's precept thrown into prison, where they remained until they had appeased the royal indignation by the payment of twelve thousand pounds. (Chron. Thomæ Wikes, p. 114.)

[1] Joan, second daughter of Edward the First, surnamed of Acres, in the Holy Land, from her birth in that city, born 1272; married, 1st. Gilbert de Clare, seventh earl of Gloucester and Hertford; and 2ndly, Ralph de Monthermer, without her father's consent, and had issue by both. (See Nicolas's Siege of Caerlaverock.)

his other daughter. And after this it was decided by the king and his council, at the instigation of the apostolic see, that all the Jews of England should go into exile between the month of August and the feast of All Saints, under pain of death if they should be found in England after that feast. In the same year, a Sir Thomas de Weyland, a justice, forsook the land on account of his felony.[1]

xix. Sir Ralph de Sandwich, governor. Thomas Rumeyn and William de Leyre, sheriffs.

In this year, on the eve of St. Andrew, died Eleanor, wife of King Edward, and was buried at Westminster. In this year, died the queen, the mother of King Edward, and was buried at Ambresbury, and on the Monday before the feast of St. Nicholas, her heart was buried in the church of the Friars Minors at London.[2]

xx. Sir Johan de Bretton, governor. Ralph le Blount and Hamond Box, sheriffs.

---

[1] See Appendix.

[2] Eleanor of Provence, who died at an advanced age in the month of June 1291. She directed that her body should be buried in her convent at Ambresbury, but that her heart should be deposited in the church of the Friars Minors at London. A peculiar disposition of the heart was not at all an unusual circumstance in those times, *e.g.* the tradition as to Bruce's heart. See also Archæol. xxix., p. 186.

In the same year, at Easter, the king moved towards Scotland. At this time the Normans came over with a great navy, and landed near the hermitage at Dover, and pillaged and burned a great part of the town.

xxi. Sir Ralph de Sandwich, governor. Henry le Bole and Elias Russell, sheriffs.

In this year, discord arose between the king of England and Sir John Baliol, and later he was made king of Scotland. In this year, the right hands of three men were cut off for felony. In this year, Sir Ralph de Sandwich was deposed, and Sir Johan de Bretton was made governor. In this year a quarrel arose between the Cinque Ports and the Normans, and the Cinque Ports conquered the great navy.

xxii. Sir Johan le Bretton, governor. Robert de Rokesly and Martin de Ambresbury, sheriffs.

In this year the king of Scotland came to London to the Parliament. In the same year, the justices in Eyre sat at the cross of stone.

xxiii. Sir Johan le Bretton, governor. Richard of Gloucester and Henry Box, sheriffs.

In the same year, the Cinque Ports conquered the great navy of Spain. In this year there happened so great a flood in the Thames, that it submerged a great part of the lands of Bermondsey and all the land around, which is now called the Breach.

xxiv. Sir Johan le Bretton, governor. Johan de Dunstable and Adam de Hallingbury, sheriffs.

In the same year, died Sir Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester.[1] And there arose a war between Sir John Baliol, king of Scotland, and the king of England. In the same year, the king conquered the land of Wales and the land of Scotland. And Sir John Baliol, king of Scotland, and John, the young Comyn, and other barons and knights of Scotland were taken, and were all sent to the Tower of London. In the same year, Thomas de Turberville, knight, was drawn and hanged for letters of treason. At this time was the battle of Dunbar, and 26,300 men of Scotland were killed, and no Englishman of renown except Sir Patrick de Graham;[2] and there were taken on that occa-

[1] Gilbert de Clare, seventh earl of Gloucester and Hertford, belonged to one of the most powerful families on the English side of the border, fought at Evesham on the royal side, although he had fought at Lewes for Simon de Montfort. He was high in favour with Edw. I. whose daughter he married (see p. 22 antea). In 1287 he had the command of the army which invaded South Wales. He died in 1295, and was succeeded by his son Gilbert, who was slain in 1313 at the disastrous battle of Bannockburn, when the earldom of Gloucester became extinct.

[2] Sir Patrick de Graham, a valiant knight, and "noble amongst the noblest," disdained to ask for quarter, and was slain in circumstances which extorted

sion of the Scotch, 3 earls, 7 barons, 28 knights, 11 clerks, and 13 camp followers; and they were sent to the Tower of London.

xxv. Sir Johan le Bretton, governor. Adam de Fulham and Thomas de Suffolk, sheriffs.

xxvi. Henry Waleis, mayor. Johan de Stortfort and William de Stortfort, sheriffs.

In the same year, King Edward received the oath of the Scotch at Westminster, that they would never rise against England, nor bear arms against him, viz.: Sir Johan le Comyn, the Earl of Strathearne, the Earl of Carrick, four bishops and two abbots in the name of the clergy of Scotland, and thus passed free into their country. Yet, nevertheless, in the same year the Scotch entered England and ravaged Northumberland,[1] and made a certain William

---

the praise of the enemy. See Tytler's Hist. of Scotland, vol. i. pp. 114-116.

[1] The MS. Bibl. Egerton, No. 650, f. 45, gives the following account of this transaction, "And in the same tyme come the Scottes agayne into Englond, and dystroyed Northumbarlond and brent and robbet it, and kylled bothe man and womon, and chyldryn that lay in cradylles, and brent also holy chyrche. And dystroyed crystendom, and toke and bare away Englysshe mens goodys, as thai had been saryzins and paynymes. And all the world spake of the wykkednesse that thai diddyn throghe crystendome." In consequence of this trespass the whole kingdom of Scotland was placed under an interdict.

Wallace their leader. And then the Earl Warren,[1] Sir Henry Percy,[2] Sir William Latimer,[3] and Sir Hugh de Cressingham,[4] then treasurer,

[1] John Earl Warren was appointed governor of Scotland by Edward the First. (Pat. 25 Edw. I. m. 2 and 22. Rot. Scotiæ, i. 27.) See Sir H. Nicolas's Siege of Carlaverock, pp. 130-136, for a memoir of this nobleman.

[2] Sir Henry Percy, nephew of Earl Warren, was made keeper of the county of Galloway, and the sheriffdom of Ayr. (Rot. Scotiæ, i. 31. Tytler's Hist. of Scotland, i. 123.) See Sir H. Nicolas's Siege of Carlaverock, pp. 136-141, for a memoir of this nobleman.

[3] Sir William le Latimer was a firm adherent of Henry the Third, and held at different times several offices of trust. He suffered considerable losses in the barons' wars. He afterwards appears to have accompanied Prince Edward to the Holy Land, and was at the Siege of Carlaverock in 1300. He died in 1305, at a very advanced age. Knighton calls him *miles strenuissimus*. See a memoir of this distinguished knight in Sir H. Nicolas's Siege of Carlaverock, p. 253.

[4] He was a proud and violent churchman, who preferred the cuirass to the cassock. In 1296 he was made treasurer of Scotland. (Pat. 25 Edw. I. m. 23. Rot. Scotiæ, i. 29.) Prynne in the volume of Papal Usurpations from John to King Edward I. calls him a canon of St. Paul's, and gives the names of several churches of which he was parson, adding in the margin, "an insatiable pluralist." Hemingford (p. 130) also calls him a prebendary of many churches. He fell, whilst leading the van of the English army against Wallace in the battle of Stirling, Sept. 11,

followed William Wallace and took the castle of Stirling; and the next morning our men went out full six miles to give battle to the said William Wallace; and the said William Wallace, with his forces, drove back our men to the Bridge of Stirling, and there Sir Hugh de Cressingham, the treasurer, was killed, and many of our men.

xxvii. Henry Waleis, mayor. Richard de Refham and Thomas Saly, sheriffs.

In this year, on the eve of the Epiphany, there was an earthquake. At this time the

---

1297. The indignities with which the Scots treated the body of Cressingham are borne testimony to by numerous historians. His dead body, says Hemingford, was mangled, the skin torn from the limbs, and in savage triumph cut into small pieces, to be preserved, not as relics, but for spite. Other writers state that they made saddles and girths of his skin. Wallace himself, according to the Lanercost Chronicle, is said to have had a sword-belt made of it. See Archæologia, xxv. p. 607, for an engraving from a small circular seal of Hugh de Cressingham, appendant to an instrument preserved in the library of the Society of Advocates at Edinburgh. In the area a swan is represented standing in front of a tree, in the attitude of preparing to attack some other animal. The inscription round reads: S. HUGONIS FILII WILLELMI DE CRESSINGHAM. No notice of any of Cressingham's family occurs, unless it may be in the Scala Chronicon, in which he is said to be of low origin.

king married Margaret, sister to the king of France.

xxviii. Elias Russell, mayor. Johan Darmentiers and Henry de Fingry, sheriffs.

At this time the Pollards were put to ransom on Christmas Eve, and the following Easter were forbidden everywhere. At this time a great part of the Holy Land was gained by the king of Tars in the month of January, and in March of the year of grace 1299; and on the feast of St. Mary Magdalene following, the battle of Falkirk took place, where 57,317 Scotchmen were killed, and one valiant English knight, a hospitaller, named Brian Jay, who, as he pursued William Wallace as he fled, struck his spurs into his horse, and his horse rushed into a deep morass, and when William Wallace saw this, he turned and killed him.[1]

Anno domini M°. ccc.

[1] The MS. Bibl. Egerton, No. 650, f. 39, gives the following account of this battle and of the death of Sir Bryan de Jaye. "And on Saynt Marye Mawleyne daye the kyng come to Foukyrk and yaf batayle to the Scottes, and at that batayle were kyllede of the Scottes .xxxiij. thousande, and of Englysemen .xxviij. persones and no mo, of the wheche was a worthy knyght slayne that was an hospitalere that men called ffrere Bryan Jay, for when Wylliam Waleis flew from the batayle that same frere Brian Jaye pursued freshly and hys hors start and ran into a myre and marrasse up on to the body, and Wylliam

xxix. Elias Russell, mayor. Lucas de Havering and Richard le Champs, sheriffs.

In this year, at Candlemas, Sir Edward, son of the king, was made Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester. At this time the Comte d'Artois and four other Counts, and innumerable people, were killed by Piers Conow of Flanders. And the same year, King Edward returned to Scotland, and came to the castle of Stirling, which was well stored with men, and victuals for seven

---

Walels turned agayne, and kylled the forsaid Bryan Jaye. And that was moche harme." Tytler (Hist. of Scotland, vol i. p. 167.) states that nearly 15,000 Scotchmen were left dead upon the field. On the English side only two men of note fell; one of them was Sir Bryan de Jaye, preceptor of the Scottish Templars, who, when pressing before his men, in the ardour of the pursuit, was entangled in a moss in Calendar Wood, and slain by some of the Scottish fugitives. The other was a companion of the same order, and of high rank. His name according to Carrick (Life of Wallace, vol. ii. p. 38,) was John de Sautre, "Maister de la Chivalerie de Temple en Ecosse." MS. Cott. Domit. A. III. f. 36b, and Matthew of Westminster, p. 431, state that Bryan de Jaye was preceptor of the Knights Templars in England; but it is certain from the Rotuli Scotiæ 29, Edw. I. m. 12, 11, that he was preceptor of that order in Scotland. We there find "Brianus de Jaye, Preceptor Militiæ Templi in Scotia." Trivet, p. 315, says, these two religious knights were slain at the commencement of the battle.

years; and the king could do nothing, so well defended was the castle. And then the king commanded that two poles 60 feet high should be raised before the gates of the castle, and swore a great oath, that whosoever was in the castle—be he count, baron, or knight, high or low—if they did not surrender the castle at once, should be drawn and hanged to the poles without any mercy from him. And when those inside heard this, they at once opened the gates and yielded to the king, and the king forgave them for their resistance. And then all the great men of Scotland took oath to go each year to Westminster to his Parliament, and to be at his disposal.[1]

xxx. Johan le Blount, mayor. Piers de Bosenho and Robert le Callere, sheriffs.

In this year the Earl Marshall and Earl of Hereford enfiefed the king of their lands and tenements, and the king remained in possession forty days. The king refiefed the two earls and

[1] See "The Wallace Papers," published by the Maitland Club, p. 166, and for a list of English nobility at the siege of the Castle of Stirling, printed from the contemporary document (32 Edw I.) in Sir Francis Palgrave's Documents and Records illustrative of the History of Scotland, vol. i. p. 274. For an account of the siege, see Tytler's Hist. of Scotland, vol. i. p. 205, *et seq.* The surrender of Stirling completed the reduction of Scotland.

the heirs of their body, and if they had no heirs, with reversion to the king and his heirs. In this year came the Exchequer to York. In the same year, when the war had ceased in Wales, Scotland, and Gascony, to recover the expenses incurred during the last twenty years, he caused justice to be done on evil-doers, and was called Traylebastoun;[1] and by this means the king gained great treasure, and through this act of justice the Commons of the land lived in equity for two whole years throughout England.

xxxi. Johan le Blount, mayor. Simon de Paris and Hugh Pourte, sheriffs.

[1] The "Ordinatio de Trailbaston," is extant on the Parliament Roll (Rot. Parl. i. 178.). The commission pursues the term of the ordinance. Lord Coke (4 Inst. 34) says they were called justices of Trailbaston, because they proceeded as speedily as one might draw or trail a staff; and others have supposed that they obtained their title from their staves of office. It is obvious, however, that the name was originally applied either to the offender or to the offence, as the commission is docketed "De transgressionibus nominatis Trailbaston audiendis et terminandis." The offenders are described as murderers, robbers, and incendiaries, wandering from place to place, and lurking in woods and parks. (Rot. Pat. 33 Edw. I. p. 1. m. 8d. MS. Addit. 5444. f. 135.) Perhaps, says Lingard, they were generally armed with clubs; whence the offense might be called an act of trailbaston. See The Political Songs of England, vol. iv. p. 11 (Bibliotheca Curiosa, No. 25) for "The Outlaws Song of Traillebaston," and the note, same page.

At this time the treasury of the king at West-
minster was robbed.

xxxii. Johan le Blount, mayor. John de Boreford and William Combemartin, sheriffs.

At this time Sir Roger Brabazon and Sir William de Bereford sat in justice to inquire who had robbed the treasury of the king at Westminster.

xxxiii. Johan le Blount, mayor. Johan de Nicol and Roger de Paris, sheriffs.

At this time William Wallace was taken in Scotland, and led prisoner to London on the day of St. Dominique, and judgment was given against him that he be drawn, hanged, and beheaded, his bowels burnt, and his body divided into four quarters, and his head stuck on London Bridge the eve of St. Bartholomew.[1]

---

[1] William Wallace, or Walays, was the second son of Sir Malcolm Wallace of Ellerslie, near Paisley, a simple knight, whose family was ancient, but neither rich nor noble. After escaping from the hands of his enemies for some time, he at last fell a victim to the confidence which he reposed in a friend and countryman, and was betrayed by Sir John Menteith, a Scottish baron of high rank, and governor of Dunbarton. On the night of the 5th August, 1305, strongly fettered, and guarded by a powerful escort, under the command of Robert de Clifford and Aymer de Valence, he was hurried to the south, by the line of road least exposed to the chance of a rescue. (Carrick's Life of Wallace, ii. 155.) From a docu-

xxxiv. Johan le Blount, mayor. Reynold de Tunderley and William Cosyn, sheriffs.

ment discovered in the Chapter House at Westminster, printed in Sir F. Palgrave's Documents and Records illustrative of the History of Scotland, vol. i. p. 295, we learn the high amount of the rewards given to the traitors. Forty marks, equal to thirty pounds, were given to one person, who had watched Wallace; sixty marks (forty pounds) were given to others who had been employed in the same mission; a like sum was divided among those who had been present at his capture; and land to the value of one hundred pounds was assigned to Sir John Menteith. So anxious was Edward to wreak his vengeance upon the head of Wallace, that no sooner had he obtained possession of his captive, than he appears to have made preparation for his execution. He arrived in London, attended, as might have been expected, by a great multitude of spectators, upon Sunday, 22 August, 1305, and was lodged in the house of William de Leyre, a citizen, in the parish of All Saints, Fenchurch Street. On the morrow, being the eve of St. Bartholomew (August 23), he was conducted on horseback to Westminster Hall, Sir John de Segrave, and Sir Geoffrey de Segrave, the mayor, sheriffs, and aldermen of London, many both on horseback and on foot, accompanying him. (MS. Addit. 5444, f. 138b.) Sentence of death having been pronounced against him, he was then dragged at the tails of horses through the streets, to the foot of a high gallows, placed at the Elms in Smithfield. After being hanged, but not to death, he was cut down yet breathing, his bowels taken out, and burnt before his face. His head was then struck off, and his body divided into four quarters. His head was placed on a pole on London Bridge, his right arm

In this year, on the day of Pentecost, Sir Edward, son of King Edward, was knighted, and ninety-two knights were created in honour of him; and the said Johan le Blount, the mayor, was knighted the same day. At this time, Simon Frisel[x] was drawn, hanged, and beheaded, his bowels burnt, and the body with-

above the bridge at Newcastle, his left arm was sent to Berwick, his right foot and limb to Perth, and his left quarter to Aberdeen. (Tytler's Hist. of Scotland, vol. i. p. 214.) The documents connected with the trial and execution of Wallace may be found amongst "The Wallace Papers," pp. 181-193, published by the Maitland Club. Carrick, in his "Life of Wallace," vol. ii., p. 157, states that Geoffrey de Hartlepool, recorder of London, rode on one side of Wallace during his progress from Fenchurch Street to Westminster Hall. This circumstance is here noticed, because the first mention that is made of a recorder of London is in this reign, the above Geoffrey de Hartlepool, alderman of Candlewick Ward (MS. Lansd. 558, f. 205), being (A.D. 1304) the first who was appointed to that high office, which has been continued ever since.

[x] Frisel was the original form of the name of Fraser, and is the way in which it is spelt in all the English documents. He was the eldest son of Simon Fraser, the ancestor of the baronial houses of Saltoun and Lovat; and a faithful adherent of Sir William Wallace. For a memoir of this distinguished personage see Sir Harris Nicolas's Siege of Carlaverock, p. 216. A song composed on the execution of Sir Simon Fraser may be found in The Political Songs of England, vol. iii. p. 65, (Bibliotheca Curiosa No. 25.)

out a head hanged a second time, and watched all night; and the same day two Scottish knights were beheaded in the Tower of London.[1] In the same year, the Bishop of St. Andrews, Sir Robert the Bruce, the Earl of Carrick, and all the other barons of Scotland, were obliged, by oath and other affirmation at Westminster, never to take arms against England on pain of being disinherited, and to lose life and limb; and on this affirmation, they were allowed to go free to their own country. At this time, in one night and one day, Holy Church throughout all England was robbed by King Edward of all the treasure that was found therein. And soon after the Scotch elected Robert the Bruce their king; but Sir Johan le Comyn would not in any way assent to his coronation, wherefore Robert the Bruce killed him in the Church of the Friars minors at Dumfries; and afterwards, on the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, King Edward marched into Scotland and took the town of St. John, and encountered Sir Robert the Bruce and his company, of whom were killed 24,217 Scotch,

[1] There was only one knight that suffered death on the same day, viz., Sir Herbert de Morham, a Scottish knight of French extraction, who had been imprisoned and forfeited his estates in 1297, and liberated under the promise of serving Edward in his Flemish war. His squire, Thomas de Boys, also suffered with him. (Tytler's Scotland, i. 250.)

and Sir Robert the Bruce fled. In this battle were taken the bishop of Glasgow, the bishop of St. Andrews, the abbot of Scone, and others, armed like traitors against their oath, and were led before King Edward; but he would not have them tried because they were prelates, but kept them in armour, and guarded, until he received information from the apostolic see as to what was to be done with them.

xxxv. Sir Johan le Blount, knight, mayor. Edmund Bolet and Geoffrey del Conduit, sheriffs.

At this time the Earl of Athol[1] was hanged and beheaded in London. At this time the two brothers of Robert the Bruce were taken in Scotland, and hanged. In this year, on the

[1] John 10th Earl of Athol was one of the chief associates of Bruce in his arduous attempt to restore the liberties of Scotland, and assisted at his coronation at Scone, 27 March 1306. On the discomfiture of Bruce the same year the Earl of Athol, endeavouring to escape by sea, was discovered, and conducted to London. Notwithstanding he was allied in blood, through his mother, to the English monarch, such was the animosity of Edward against those who had supported Bruce that Athol was condemned to death in Westminster Hall, 7 Nov. 1306, and executed the same day, on a gallows thirty feet higher than ordinary, in consequence of his royal descent. He was let down before he was dead, his head cut off, and fixed on London Bridge, and his body burnt to ashes. (Douglas's Peerage of Scotland, vol. i. p. 133. Edit. Wood.)

16th day of April, Sir John Wallace, brother of William Wallace, was hanged and beheaded. At this time died dame Joan of Acres, Countess of Gloucester; and then died King Edward in Scotland, on Friday, the feast of the translation of St. Thomas of Canterbury, and his body was brought to Westminster on the eve of the Assumption of Our Lady.

APPENDIX.

P. 45. The following account of the severe punishments inflicted on Sir Thomas Weyland and several others of the king's judges, is taken from the Parliamentary Writs, vol. i. p. 14 *note*, and other authorities.

"Proclamation was made that all who had any complaints against the king's justiciars, ministers, or bailiffs, of injuries done to the people whilst he was out of the kingdom, should prefer them in person before the parliament which had been summoned to meet at London on the feast of St. Hilary. In consequence of this proceeding, it appears that the truth of the allegations of the complaints was ascertained in the usual manner, viz. by an inquest of twelve men; and by this inquest *Thomas de Weyland*, the chief justice of the common bench, was found guilty of having caused a murder to be committed by one of his squires, and of having harboured the murderers. *Sir Thomas*, who was in subdeacon's orders, and who had also received knighthood, escaped from the officers by whom he was arrested, and fled to the monastery of the Minor Friars at Bury St. Edmund's, where he was allowed to

take the habit of the order. After forty days had elapsed, he refused to quit his sanctuary; upon which the 'laity,' probably the sheriff and his posse, besieged the convent, and entirely prevented the introduction of any kind of victual. The Friars, yielding to hunger and thirst, abandoned their house, all except three or four 'veterans,' who remained with *Weyland*. The latter, finding that his frock would not protect him, 'maxime cum cibaria non haberet,' reclothed himself in his secular garb, and surrendered himself to *Robert Malet*, by whom he was lodged in the Tower of London. Being brought before the council, and arraigned concerning the 'treasons and felonies which he had committed against the king and the kingdom,' he was allowed his choice —either to abide the judgment of the court, or to be adjudged to perpetual imprisonment, or to abjure the king's dominions for evermore. He submitted to the last of these hard conditions; and the port of Dover having been assigned to him, he journeyed thither barefooted, bareheaded, and carrying the cross in his hands and passed the sea; and all his lands, and all his goods and chattels, were seized by the king. And this *Thomas*," continues the monk of Dunstable, with great exultation, "gave for law, that if any malefactor escaped from the hands of those who had him in custody he should be punished as a prison-breaker. Moreover, he gave for law, that the secular arm should withhold food from every malefactor flying to the church for protection, if after forty days elapsed he should refuse to abjure the kingdom, according to the law. Et postea juxta illud Catonis; *Patere legem quam ipse tuleris*, ipsemet secundum ipsas leges graviter

est punitus." All the other justices of the lower bench, the chief justice of the upper bench, the clerk or master of the rolls, and many others, were thrown into the dungeons of the Tower, from whence they were released upon payment of very large fines. According to a document, intitled "Summa Pecuniæ de Justiciariis Regis per Regem extorta" (MS. Cott. Claud E. VIII. p. 260), *Radulphus de Hengham*, chief justice of the upper bench, paid eight thousand pounds; *Johannes de Lovetot*, three thousand pounds; *Willelmus de Brumpton*, six thousand pounds; *Rogerus de Leycestre*, one thousand marks (the three last were the Fellows of *Thomas de Weyland*); *Solomon de Roff*, chief justice in eyre, four thousand marks; *Richardus de Boylond*, four thousand marks; *Thomas de Sodintone*, two thousand marks; *Robertus de Preston*, one thousand marks —all justices in eyre; *Robertus de Litlebury*, clerk of the rolls "qui minimus censebatur," one thousand marks; *Willelmus de Saham*, juscice in eyre, though entirely innocent, "in quo dolus seu fraus non est inventus," paid three thousand marks to conciliate the king. The heaviest punishment was inflicted upon *Adam de Stratton*, baron of the exchequer, who was accused or convicted of murder, treason, and sorcery, and, after a long imprisonment in the Tower, was deprived of all his lay-fee, fined thirty-four thousand marks, and despoiled of jewels without number, which were found in his possession, and valued (according to Cott. MS. Faust. A. VIII. f. 173) at thirty thousand marks sterling. His manors of Halingbury, Widford, Cowyk, Upton, and Richmond, were granted by the king to the monastery of Bermondsey. (Annals of Bermondsey, MS. Harl. 231,

f. 45b.) The parliament in which these transactions took place is stated in the MS. (Claud E. VIII.) to have continued from the morrow of the Circumcision to Sunday next after the feast of St. Valentine. The amerciaments imposed upon the justices are stated with some variations by the different authorities. (See also Stowe's Chron. p. 204.) *Weyland's* adventures are given from the Chronicle of Dunstaple; and the writer of the latter had a better opportunity of becoming acquainted with the facts than was usually the case with the monastic chroniclers, inasmuch as the prior was present, he having preferred a complaint before the king's counsel against *Ricardus de Boyland.* The tradition respecting the application of the fine imposed upon Hengham is well known. These details have been given on account of the very singular illustrations which they afford of the character and jurisprudence of the age. (Chron. de Dunstaple, pp. 575, 579.—Wikes, pp, 118, 120.—Annales Waverlienses, p. 241.—Triveti Annales, p. 266.—MS. Add. 5444, f. 100.) A song on the venality of the judges is printed in the Political Songs of England, vol. iv. p. 7, published by me in the Bibliotheca Curiosa [No. 25]. This song gives a strong picture of the extortions committed at this period of our history upon the weak and defenceless by the magistrates and the officers connected with the courts of law.

END OF VOL I.

COLLECTANEA ADAMANTÆA.

THE

Chronicles of London.

COLLECTANEA ADAMANTÆA.- X.

THE

Chronicles of London

FROM

44 HEN. III. TO 17 EDW. III.

TRANSLATED FROM A MS. IN THE COTTONIAN LIBRARY,

BY

EDMUND GOLDSMID, F.R.H.S.
F.S.A. (Scot.)

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

PRIVATELY PRINTED.
EDINBURGH.
1886.

M.R.
KBS

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
P37155
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.
1899.

This edition is limited to 400 small-paper copies, and 75 large-paper copies.

THE

Chronicles of London,

FROM

44 HEN. III. TO 17 EDW. III.

EDWARD II.

The names of Mayors and Sheriffs and other Notable Events in the Reign of King Edward II.

i. Sir John Blount, Knight, Mayor. Nicolas Pycot and Nigel Drury, Sheriffs.[1]

In this year, on the Friday after the feast of St. Luke, was King Edward nobly interred at Westminster. At this time the Templars were

[1] On the 30th Dec. Nicolas Picot, Alderman of Coleman Street Ward, (M.S. Lansd. 558, fol. 204b), and Nigell Drury, Alderman of Billingsgate Ward (Ibid.), sheriffs of London, received £40 to provide beer for the King's Coronation. (Devon's Issue Roll, p. 121.)

destroyed. In this year, the day after the feast of St. Peter *in Cathedra*, the King and his Queen, Isabella, were crowned, at which coronation was Sir John Bakewell, Knight, killed as he fell from a wall.[1] In this year there was a great eye disease, by which many people lost their eyesight.

ii. Nicolas of Faringdon,[2] Mayor. Jakes le

---

[1] This fatal occurrence is stated by the monks of Westminster to have been a judgment in their favour, in consequence of Sir John Bakwell having been a great enemy to their church through some law differences between him and the convent. He was pressed to death by the crowd "without the happiness of the last viaticum." (Dart's Westm. Abbey, ii. xxvij.)

[2] He was a member of the Goldsmiths' Company, and the son of William Farindon, Alderman of Farringdon Ward, within and without, and sheriff in 1281. He served the office of mayor four times, viz., in 1308, 1313, 1320, and 1323, in which last year the office of mayoralty being in the king's hands for certain causes, the king by his writ committed it to Nicolas Farindon, during pleasure, and commanded the aldermen &c. to be obedient to him as mayor. In 1314 he was member for the city, and also in 1340. He first occurs as warden of the Goldsmiths' Company in 1339, and for the last time in 1352. In 1361 he built the east arch or gate which entered the south churchyard of St. Paul's. He lived to a great age, as he witnessed several deeds in the year 1363. The time of his death is not known,

Botiller and William de Basing,[1] Sheriffs.

iii. Thomas Romeyn, Mayor.[2] Roger Palmer and Jakes Fouke,[3] Sheriffs.

At this time came Sir Piers Gaveston into England, who had been exiled by King Edward the Conqueror, and was made Earl of Cornwall, to the great harm of all the realm. In this year there was so much ice on the Thames that many people passed over on foot to Southwark and back to London.[4] In this year was given judg-

---

but he was buried in the church of St. Peter le Chepe, in which church he founded a chantry of the yearly value of £5 6s. 8d. and also gave 4s. out of his lands in the same parish for the maintenance of a light, to be perpetually burning before our Lady there.

[1] He is said by Stowe to have been one of the founders of the priory of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate Street. William Basinge, dean of St. Paul's, was the first founder.

[2] Alderman of Cordwainer Street Ward (MS. Lansd. 558, f. 204b), and served the office of sheriff in 19 Edw. I. Stowe says, "he was a great benefactor to the church of St. Thomas the Apostle, and had a chantry there 1319." Will dated London "in domo sua paroch. de Aldemarie church die Jovis in festo sanctæ Thomæ Apostoli." A. D. 1312. (Regist. Reynolds, f. 260b. in Bibl. Lambeth.)

[3] MS. Addit. No. 5444, f. 153b, states his name to be "Jacobus Filius Fulconis de Sancto Edmundo."

[4] The following account of this severe frost is extracted from the MS. last quoted, f. 154. "Eodem

ment at Westminster on the question of bastardy, that if any bastard died without heir or without making a will, his lands and tenements should be escheat to the King.

iv. Richard de Refham, Mayor.[1] Symond Corp and Piers de Blakeneye,[2] Sheriffs.

v. John Gisors, Mayor.[3] Richard de Welford and Simon de Mereworthe, Sheriffs.

---

anno, in festo natalis Domini, tanta frigiditas et gelu fuerat massata et congregata in Thamisia et ubique, quod pauperes, præ nimio frigore, oprimabantur, et quod panis in stramine vel alio velamine coopertus, fuerat congelatus, quod non potuit comedi, nisi fuerit calefactus; et quod tanta fuit massa crustium glaciorum in Thamisia, quod homines iter suum arripuerunt de Quenhethe in Suthwork, et de Westm. usque London: et sic per multum tempus duravit, quod populus duxit choream per mediam ejus, juxta ignem quemdam ibidem factam, et luctaverunt, et leporem cum canibus ceperunt in medio Thamis., ponte London, in magno periculo et dampno permanente; sed et pons Roffensis et aliæ pontes in cursu aquarum stantes omnino corruerunt."

[1] Alderman of Dowgate Ward (MS. Lansd. 558, f. 204b). Through his falsely imprisoning William de Hakford, mercer, which led to a commotion in the city, he was deposed from his office of mayor, and afterwards from his aldermanship. (MS. Addit. 5444, f. 170.)

[2] Piers de Blackeneye dying within the year, John de Grauntebrugge was chosen in his place. (MS. Addit. 5444. f. 169b.)

[3] Sir John Gisors, knt. one of the Pepperers' (now

In the same year there was great discord between the King and the Barons concerning Sir

---

the Grocers') Company, was seven times mayor, alderman of Vintry Ward, and coroner for the city, from 10 to 13 Edw. 1. (MS. Lansd. 558. f. 204, 206.) The family is said to be of Italian origin—the *Gisorio*; but the name is decidedly Norman, Gisors being the name of a town in Normandy. In 1311 he was made constable of the Tower. (Claus. 1 Edw. III. p. 1 m. 23.) In 1314 he was nominated, with William de Liere, by the mayor and aldermen, &c. to attend the Parliament at York, for which he received twenty marks for his expenses, and William de Liere fifteen marks. (Liber. E. p. 20, inter Archiv. Civit. Lond.) During his mayoralty, in 1315, he, with Nicholas de Farendon, John de Wengrave, Robert de Keleseye, and other aldermen, appeared before the King at Westminster, and on their bended knees asked pardon for an outrage committed by the citizens in demolishing the eastern rampart opposite to the outward gate of the tower. The king, in consideration of 600 marks which the citizens promised to give him, and on condition that the rampart should be repaired at their expense, with all possible dispatch, and that the malefactors should be punished, pardoned them the whole trespass. (Claus. 9 Edw. II. m. 25d.) The time of his death is not known, but he was buried in the chapel of St. Mary, in the Grey Friars, "ad dexterum cornu altaris sub prima parte fenestræ sub lapide elevato." (Collect. Topog. et Geneal. v. 282.) There were two of this name who served the office of mayor, the first in 1245, and the second in 1312, 1313, and 1315. Stowe says the latter was buried, with others of this very distinguished family, in the church of St.

Piers Gaveston, because the treasure of the land was wasted by him in pomp and great extravagance, and the said Piers Gaveston held in great contempt the great people of the land, and gave to each lord some nick-name in mockery. The end was that he was watched till he was away from the King, and taken by the Earl of Warwick,[1] supported by the other great men of the land, and was conducted to Warwick, and afterwards by their advice, on the 19th day of June, at the hour of vespers, he was led into a field which is called Blacklow, near a running water which is called Gaversik, and was there beheaded. In this year was destroyed a wall of earth near the Tower which Sir John Cromwell[2] made, about which a great disturbance took place on St. Matthew's Eve between the Corporation of the City and Sir John Cromwell.

vi. Johan Gisors, mayor. Adam Lucekyn and Johan Lambyn, sheriffs.

In this year was born Edward of Windsor,

Martin in the Vintry. (See MS. Harl. 1349. f. 3b.) Gisors' Hall, now called Gerrard's Hall, was in the possession of this family for several years. (Maitland, ii. 825.)

[1] Guy de Beauchamp XI.—9 Earl of Warwick, ob. 1315.

[2] A memoir of this personage may be found in Sir Harris Nicholas's Siege of Carlaverock, p. 356.

son of the King and of Queen Isabella, daughter of the King of France; this event took place on Monday in the feast of St. Bryce, and on the day of St. Esmond de Pounteneye he was baptized by Cardinal Arnold. In this year the Sunday after Candlemas, the apprentices of London went in procession from Chepe to Westminster. And in this year died Robert of Winchelsea, Archbishop of Canterbury. In this year was the eyre in Kent, and Sir Henry Staunton, Henry Spygornel, William de Goldingtone and Johan de Motteforde were Justices. In this year died Ralph de Baldok, Bishop of London.

vii. Nicolas de Faringdon, mayor. Hugh de Barton[1] and Robert de Burdeyn,[2] sheriffs.

In this year was Walter Reynald, Bishop of Worcester, enthroned as Archbishop of Canterbury, on the Sunday after the feast of St. Peter. In this year was the King defeated at Stirling, in Scotland, by Robert the Bruce, on the day of St. John the Baptist. In the battle were slain

[1] Alderman of Coleman Street Ward (MS. Lansd. 558, f. 204b), where he is called "Garton." He was probably a member of the Grocers' Company, as MS. Addit. 5444, f. 221b, calls him "Hugo de Garton, spicer."

[2] He was a member of the Goldsmiths' Company. (MS. ut supra.)

the Earl of Gloucester,[1] Robert de Clifford, Sir Giles D'Argentein and many others, and the Earl of Hereford and other great lords were were taken and imprisoned at Bodeville, and the Earl of Pembroke,[2] Sir Hugh le Despencer, Henry de Beaumond, Johan de Cromwell and others escaped to Dunbar and there embarked and came to Berwick.

In this year the cross of the tower of St. Paul was taken down and repaired and there were found in the old cross relics, namely, a cloth over which mass is sung, white, entire and without any damage, and in this cloth were found a part of the shaft of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ made in the manner of a cross, a stone of the sepulchre of Our Lord and another stone from the place where Our Lord stood when He ascended into heaven, and another from the Mount of Calvary where the cross of Our Lord was fixed. There was also found a purse and in this purse a piece of red sandal wood in which were enveloped the bones of the 11,000 virgins and other relics the names of which were not known. Which relics Master

[1] Gilbert de Clare, X.—8 Earl of Gloucester.

[2] Aymer de Valence, X.—2 Earl of Pembroke, ob. 1323. A memoir of this celebrated earl may be found in Sir Harris Nicolas's Siege of Carlaverock, p. 145.

Robert Clothal[1] shewed to the people in his preaching on the Sunday before the feast of St. Botolf, after which these relics were put back into the cross and several other new things on St. Francis' Day.[2]

viii. Johan Gisors, mayor. Stephen of Abingdon and Hamon Chickwell, Sheriffs.

In this year the Earl of Warwick died. In this year there was so much rain that corn and all other things failed in August and the rain lasted from Pentecost to Passover. In this year, on the feast of St. James the Less, a baker was found drunk on the ground and because another baker . . . . . .[3] by whom many were imprisoned and impoverished through the malice and false dealing of the said John Gisors, Mayor.

ix. Stephen of Abingdon,[4] mayor. William Bodeleygh and Hamon Godchep, sheriffs.

---

[1] He was Chancellor of St. Paul's Cathedral in 1309; and again in 1319. (Dugdale's St Paul's, pp. 232, 271. Edit. Ellis.)

[2] The reliques of saints it appears were anciently kept in the Cross, probably to preserve the church from all danger of tempests. (Dugdale's St Paul's, pp. 11, 337. Edit. Ellis.)

[3] The text reads: "ne porta mie le juise, mesme le jour l'avandit meir fust ledengée del poeple et appel'é Rogier," which, I confess, I cannot make out.

[4] Alderman of Dowgate Ward and chamberlain for

In this year was a great famine so that people without number died of hunger and a great pestilence followed. In this year at Pentecost and after, the quarter of corn sold at 38 shillings and 40 shillings and barley for 40 shillings and two small onions for a penny.[1]

the city. (MS. Lansd. 558, f. 205, 206b.) He was also a member of the Drapers' Company; and during his mayoralty was appointed to the office of butler to the king, which has continued ever since. (MS. Add. 5444, f. 223, 227b.) The last person who served this office was the Right Hon. John Thomas Thorpe, at the coronation of Geo. IV. on the 19 July 1821. His office was to serve the king after dinner with wine in a gold cup, which cup, with the cover belonging to it, and the layer of gold, he retained for his own use as his fee and reward.

[1] Between the years 1314 and 1317, the city, in common with the rest of the kingdom, suffered greatly from a scarcity of provisions, which eventually produced a complete famine, although different statutes were made by the king to limit the consumption, and restrain the prices of corn, meat, &c. "There followed this famine," says Stowe, (Annales, 218. Edit. Howes), "a grievous mortalitie of people, so that the quicke might vnneath burie the dead. The beastes and cattell also, by the corrupt grasse whereof they fed, dyed, whereby it came to passe that the eating of flesh was suspected of all men, for flesh of beastes not corrupted was hard to finde. Horse-flesh was counted great delicates: the poore stole fatte dogges to eate: some (as was sayde) compelled through famine, in hidde places, did eate the flesh of their owne children, and some stole others, which they devoured. Theeves

x. John de Wengrave, mayor.[1] William Caustone and Ralf la Balaunce, sheriffs.

The great distress still continued. In this year in July a great thunderstorm took place with a great fall of rain which did great damage to the Fleet and Holborne Bridges.[2]

---

that were in prisons did plucke in peeces those that were newly brought amongst them, and greedily devoured them halfe alive." See also MS. Cott. Faustina, A. VIII. f. 174b, for certain petitions of the clergy to the archbishop of Canterbury relative to this dreadful famine.

[1] At the time of his election he was "Recordator Gildaulæ, et subcoronatur." (MS. Add. 5444, f. 2£0b.) He was also alderman of Cheap Ward and coroner for the City. (MS. Lansd. 558, f. 204b, 206b).

[2] MS. Cott. Faustina A. VIIJ. f. 175b. thus records this dreadful inundation, &c.—

"Memorandum quod die Translationis Sancti Martini (4 July) in sero et per totam noctem sequentem vise fuerunt tante coruscationes et audita tanta tonitrua quanta longe ante fuerant inaudita, anno videlicet domini Mo.CCC. septimo decimo. Fuit etiam in ipsa nocte tanta pluvia quod per inundationem aquarum subito provenientium multi pontes, domus quamplurima, cum hominibus et pueris, ac etiam molendina in multis locis sunt submersa. Ista acciderunt London: tamen pluvia fuit particularis et non universalis."

Malcolm (Lond. Rediv. i. 376) says, "The little River Fleet, whose waters were swelled by Turnmill and Oldbourn brooks, flowed in a valley, which may be very readily traced from the Thames to Battle Bridge" (now called King's Cross,) "near the Small-Pox Hospital." Everything but the names of Old-

xi. John de Wengrave, mayor. William de Fur neaux and John Prior, sheriffs.

In this year through the conspiracy and collusion of the said Mayor there arose a great discord between the corporation and him, and the corporation desired certain points in their new Charter which were much against the wish of the said Johan the mayor.

xii. Johan Wengrave, mayor, by procuring letters from the King and by assent of certain persons against the wishes of the corporation. Johan Poyntel and Johan Dalling, sheriffs.

In this year was the new Charter confirmed by the King and cost 100 pounds, and the said Johan Wengrave did great harm in his time to the corporation.

xiii. Hamon de Chickwell, mayor.[1] Johan Pres-

---

bourne (Holborn) and Turnmill are lost to us; and the Fleet exists only under a sewer. Fleet River, says Stowe, was called in the foundation charter of St. Martin's-le-Grand College, by the Conqueror, the River of Wells. See also Knight's London, p. 225, where may be found an engraving of the Fleet Ditch, 1749.

[1] He was a member of the Grocers' Company (pepperer), six times mayor of London during the reign of Edward II. namely, in the years 1319, 1321, 1322, 1324, 1325, and finally in 1327. He was also alderman of Queenhithe Ward. (MS. Lansd. 558, f. 204b.) The periods at which he presided over the

ton[1] and Symond of Abingdon, sheriffs.

In this year the King passed over to France to do his homage and the Queen went with him. In this year every man was forbidden to harbour spies which caused many spies to be taken and hung in Ludgate within and without. In this time many tradesmen of London were clothed in silk, and did much business. (?)

xiv. Nicolas of Faringdon, mayor. William Prudhomme and Reynold Cunduyt, sheriffs.

During this time on Wednesday after the day of St. Hillary the Judges in Eyre sat at the Tower of London, that is to say Henry Staunton,[2] William Herle, Esmond Paselee. In this

city, as its chief magistrate, were stormy and tumultuous, but he appears by his activity and decision to have effectually maintained order and tranquillity, and thereby secured to himself the approbation of his fellow-citizens. He died in 1328, and was buried, according to Stowe, in St Paul's Cathedral, "in the north-west walk, against the choir." MS. Add. 5444, f. 223, however, calls him "Piscenarius," a member of the Fishmongers' Company.

[1] Member of the Drapers' Company. He was elected mayor in 7 Edw. III.

[2] This name should be Hervy de Stanton. He was the founder of Michael House at Cambridge, since embodied in Trinity College. His family name was Aungier, or Aunger, and he is said to have been a native of Suffolk. He was rector of East Dereham and North Creake, in Norfolk, a canon of York and Wells, and chancellor of the Exchequer to Edward II.

year was lost the Mayoralty of London for a trespass which John Gisors committed during the time he was mayor, because that he allowed Henry de Braundeston felon of the King to enjoy the franchise of London after he had committed the felony. The said Henry had slain a man in the holy church of St. Mary-at-Hill. Sir Robert Kendal was made governor and remained governor until the Wednesday after St. Dunstan's Day when the King allowed the corporation to elect a mayor to remain till the day before St. Michael's Day. Accordingly Hamon de Chickwell was elected mayor.[1] In this eyre it was ordained that no felon of the King should be. . . . . .[2]

In this year a woman whose name was Isabella de Bury killed the clerk of the church

---

He was also a benefactor to the Hospital of St. Nicholas at Bury St. Edmund's. He died at York in 1337. (See Wright's Memorials of Cambridge.)

[1] In consequence of certain quarrels having ensued between the mayor and aldermen and the commonalty of the city, and several of the officers and magistrates charged with various misdemeanours and acts of corruption, the mayoralty of the city was seized into the hands of the crown, and Sir Robert de Kendal was appointed custos; but the king soon afterwards restored their liberties, and Hamond Chigwall was chosen mayor. (Rot. Pat. 14 Edw. II., p. 2, m. 22.)

[2] The text has: "prise taunke en aire de justices."

of All Saints near the wall of London, and kept herself shut up in the same church for five days, until the bishop of London issued a letter to the effect that the church did not wish to save her, whereupon she was conducted out of the church to Newgate, and on the third day after was hanged. In this assize were persons of influence, aldermen and others indicted of false conspiracy. In this year there arose a discord between the great lords of the land and Sir Hugh le Despencer, father and son, on diverse points of harm which the lords of the land accused them of. Wherefore the Earl of Hereford, the Mortimers, and several other great lords destroyed their lands and houses, and came with a great host to London at the beginning of August, and on the eve of the Assumption the Despencers, father and son, were exiled in presence of the King in Westminster. But the King maintained the son in the Kingdom among the Cinque Ports, and the said Sir Hugh the younger robbed merchant ships and other vessels in great number which which were coming to England, and thereby committed great harm at this time.

xv. Hamon de Chickwell elected mayor by the corporation through the good-will of the King.[1]

---

[1] See Rot. Pat. 14 Ewd. II. p. 1, m. 11.

Richard Constantin and Richard Hakeney,[1] sheriffs.

In this year before All Saints' Day the King assembled his host and beseiged the castle of Leeds,[2] which belonged to Sir Bartholemew

---

[1] He was buried in the church of St. Mary-at-Hill. Stowe states that the body of Alice his wife found remarkably presereed after being buried 170 years.

[2] The siege of the Castle of Leeds, in Kent, was occasioned by the following circumstance :—The king having gone to Canterbury with the queen to perform their devotions at the Shrine of St. Thomas à Becket, the latter in returning towards London desired a night's lodging at the castle, which belonged to Lord Badlesmere, but in his absence she was not only denied admittance, but some of her servants were killed as they presented themselves at the gate. So general was the indignation excited by this affront, that the king found no difficulty in raising an army and reducing the castle; after which he hanged the governor (Sir Thomas Culpeper), and sent Margaret, the wife of Lord Badlesmere, and Giles his son and heir, prisoners to the Tower of London. On this occasion the cicizens of London assisted the king by raising a body of foot soldiers, who a so served in other parts of the kingdom. The services then performed by the citizens are recited in the second charter of Edward II., wherein he grants that euch service shall not be drawn into a precedent for the future. As this charter, though it does not confer any franchise, is an acknowledgement of the prescriptive exemption that the citizens should not go to war out of the city, it has

Badlesmere, then seneschal of the king, and the King entered the Castle on the eve of All Saints' Day, but it held out for a fortnight. And then Sir Bartholomew Burghersh[1] and the lady of Badlesmere, and others in their company, were committed to the Tower of London, and fourteen persons who were found in the castle were hanged outside the gate, and one Watkin Colpeper of Kent was taken to Winchelsea and hanged. After all this the king caused to be drawn up a charter of great servage, and wished the good people of London should seal it as it was, but the good people of the city did not

---

been treated as a document of great importance. And the right or claim of the freemen of London to be exempted from imprisonment is considered as being founded upon such prescriptive exemption. But the supply of soldiers is now systematically provived for by he Mutiny Acts.

[1] Bartholomew Lord Burghersh was one of the barons who had joined with Thomas Earl of Lancaster and others in opposition to the two Spencers. After the defeat of the barons at Boroughbridge, he fled with Lord Badlesmere to Leeds Castle, where they were besieged, and taken prisoners, and he was sent to the Tower. The arrival of the queen procured him his enlargement. Lord Burghersh was generally in active service. He was constable of Dover Castle, admiral of the seas to the westward, chamberlain to the king's household, constable of the Tower, and warden of all the king's forests south of Trent.

wish to grant what the king wished for. At this time the King went away to Winchester with a great host, and at the feast of St. Lucy the people of London sent to the King at Winchester 380 men well armed. In this year, on the day of the conversion of St. Paul, the two Mortimers gave themselves up to the king, and were taken to the Tower by the Earl of Warren, Robert Lewer, and several others, on Saturday the eve of St. Valentine's, after supper. At this time Viscount Hereford was taken and hanged at Gloucester. At this time, on the 3d day of March, the people of London committed to the king another batch of 120 armed men. At this time, on the next Tuesday after the feast of St. Gregory, which was the 16th day of March, was Sir Thomas of Lancaster, of five counties taken at Burghbridge by one Sir Andrew Hercle, along with Sir Humfrey de Bown, Count of Hereford, and killed, while many of the barons of the land were killed, taken, or imprisoned: and on the 21st day of March was the said Earl of Lancaster beheaded at Pontefract. And on the same day William Fitz-William, Sir Waryn de Lisle, Sir Henry de Bradebourne, Sir Thomas Mauduyt, Sir William Tucket, Sir William Cheyne, barons, and Thomas Page, squire of the said Earl of Lancaster, were all taken and

hanged at London on the 3rd day of April, which was the eve of Palm-day. Sir John Moubray, Sir Roger de Clifford, Sir Gosselyn d'Eyville, were drawn and hanged at Berwick; and Sir Henry Tyeis was drawn and hanged at London. Afterwards, on the eve of the Passover, came Sir Bartholemew Baldesmere,[1] who was a great baron and seneschal of the king, to London on his way to Canterbury, and on the Wednesday of Passover-week he was vilely drawn, hanged, and beheaded at Canterbury before his nephew Sir Bartholomew of Ashbournham. Sir Francis Oldenham was drawn and hanged at Windsor on the Wednesday after Easter; Sir Henry de Mountfort and Sir Henry de Wilingham at Bristol; Sir John Giffard and Sir Roger de Elmerigge at Gloucester; Sir William Fleming at Cardiff; Sir Thomas Colepeper at Winchelsea; Sir Stephen Baret at Collyere. Sir Roger Dammory died in a duel at Tutbury. Sir Hugh Audley the elder and Sir John Charlton gave themselves up to the King. Sir John Butturd, Sir John Kingston, Sir Nicol Percy, Sir John Maltravers the younger, Sir John Twyford, and Sir William Trussel fled over sea. Sir

[1] See a memoir of this baron in Sir Harris Nicolas's Siege of Carlaverock, p. 348.

Robert Holond, Sir Hugh Audley the younger, and ninety-two other good knights were cast into prison during the King's pleasure.[1] On the eve of St Margaret's next, the good people of London sent to the King at Newcastle-on-Tyne a hundred well armed and well equipped men. At this time the bushel of corn sold at three shillings and eightpence. At this time, on the 2d day of August, the two Mortimers were tried at Westminster before six justices, and condemned to be drawn and hanged for murder and for robberies which sentence the King allowed against them, but no execution of this judgment took place by reason of a respite from the King. On the following day the King granted them their lives, but commanded them to be kept in perpetual imprisonment. At this time, at the beginning of August, the King went away with his army to the territories of Scotland, and advanced for forty miles into the country, and there a large number of his people died of hunger for want of victuals, and the King could not find any opponents. But he returned shamefully to England, and

[1] See MS. Harl. No. 88, f. 154 et seq. for the record and process of the sentence passed upon Sir Roger Damory and others. See also Parl. Writs, pt. ii. p. 261, et seq.

wasted his people much with tyranny and ill-usage.

xvi. Hamon Chichwell, mayor. John of Grantham, peperer, and Roger of Ely, fishmonger, sheriffs.

In this year the Scots came on Blackomore in England, and robbed and burned everywhere, and took away a great part of the King's sustenance, for he was at that moment in the neighbourhood of York. In the same year, on Thursday the 3d day of March, Sir Andrew Hercley was made Earl of Carlisle by the King, for his having captured the noble Earl Sir Thomas of Lancaster and Humfrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford. In the same year the said Sir Andrew was taken at Carlisle, and there was drawn and hanged, his head cut off, and his bowels burned, quartered, and his head sent to London on the Sunday following St. Gregory's Day.[1] At this time, on the 4th day of April,

[1] See MS. Harl. No. 88, f. 160, for the record and process of the judgment passed upon Andrew de Harcla, Earl of Carlisle. He was attainted of high treason for allying himself, both by oath and writing, to maintain Robert Bruce as King of Sbotland. For which treason he was adjudged to be drawn, hanged, and beheaded, his heart and entrails torn out, burnt to ashes, and the ashes cast to the winds, his carcase to be cut into four quarters, one to be hanged at the top of the tower of Carlisle, another at the top of the

were Hamon Chickwell, the mayor, the aldermen, sheriffs, and clerks, summoned to come before the King at Westminster. Then the King, by reason of his resentment, did without any reason depose the said Hamon from his mayoralty, and made Nicolas of Farindon governor of London. And the said Hamon Chickwell, Hamon Godchep, Esmon Lambyn, and Roger Palmer, aldermen, followed the court of the King to answer any accusation he might desire to make against them.

At that time God performed several miracles in the Church of St. Paul, at the table which the said Thomas of Lancaster made in remembrance of the fact that the King had granted and affirmed the ordinances which were made by Sir Robert of Winchelsea, Archbishop of Canterbury, and by all the great and wise men of England, to the great profit of the realm. In which place the crooked were made straight, the blind received their sight, the deaf their hearing, and other good deeds of grace were openly shown. At this time was the sixth penny on goods levied in London and in other

---

tower of Newcastle, the third on the bridge at York, the fourth at Shrewsbury; and his head to be spiked on London Bridge. All which was executed accordingly.

cities in England, and on uplands the tenth penny was exacted, to the great distress and impoverishment of the common people of the land. At this time the truce between the King of England and Robert the Bruce was made, from the twelfth day of June in the 16th year of the reign, for thirteen years, under divers conditions between the parties aforesaid, each binding himself in honor.

And after this, on the day of the Translation of St. Thomas, by a writ from the King issued in Chancery, the table in St. Paul's and the wax candles which were there offered in devotion for the martyr, of great renown, was taken away; but the people's devotion was not at an end therefore, for they offered their oblations to the pillar where the table had hung.[1]

In the same year, on the Friday before the first day of August, came the Exchequer of the King from Berwick to Westminster, and great treasure with it.

---

[1] A copy of this table is printed amongst the notes to the Chronicle of London (MS. Harl. 565, f. 2.), edited by Sir Harris Nicolas. For an account of the miracles imputed to Thomas Earl of Lancaster after his death see MS. Bibl. Egerton, No. 650, f. 51 et seq. and Brady, ii. 136. A memoir of this earl may be found in Sir Harris Nicolas's Siege of Carlaverock, p. 265.

At the same time, on Monday, in the feast of St. Peter, in the beginning of August, at night, Sir Roger Mortimer, Lord of Wigmore, by means of a drinking feast, cunningly contrived, which he gave the same evening to the constable, the officers of the Tower, and others who were there, escaped from the Tower of London by the help of a knotted rope ladder, and fled to Porchester, and there took ship and passed over the sea and put himself into the power of the Count of Hainault.[1] At the same time, on Thursday, the day after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, came the four burgesses who had followed the Court of the King to London, with a large company of men.

xvii. Nicholas of Farindon, mayor, neither by presentation nor election, but by will of the King.

Adam of Salisbury and John of Oxenford, sheriffs.

At this time, at the feast of St. Martin, and afterwards, there were several good men of

[1] He owed his escape to the imprudence of Sir Stephen Segrave, the constable, and other officers of the Tower, whom Mortimer invited to a banquet and made intoxicated: for which Seagrave was removed from his office and imprisoned, and Sir Walter Stapledon, bishop of Exeter, appointed in his room. (Rot. Claus. 17 Edw. II. m. 39.)

London and of other cities and towns in the land attacked by a wicked and ribbald clerk who had the royal commission, by name Thomas of Newbegging, who accused them of having spoken with Sir Roger Mortimer, and counselled his escape from the Tower. And at the feast of St. Nicholas, by the will of the King, Hamon Chickwell was made mayor,[1] and Nicholas of Farindon was removed from his office. In the same year, on St. Hillary's Day, the forest justices sat at Stratford. In the same year, at Lent, the King held his Parliament at Westminster, and then the King caused to be seized all the lands and houses which the Bishop of Hereford had, because the King accused him of having aided the Mortimers against him. And on the first Sunday of the Lent following a minister, whose name was Roger Wade, made a solemn enterment of himself as if he had been dead, and caused masses to be sung for his soul, and he and others in his company offered alms, so that many people wondered, and this he did because he did not trust any executors, and for this many of the clergy wished to deprive him of his living, which he had purchased for life, and he himself died soon after Easter.

[1] By writ, dated 29 Nov. 17 Edw. II. See Rot. Pat. 17 Edw. II. p. 1, m. 10.

In the same year, at the feast of St. John, a discord arose between the King of France and the King of England for homage not having been done for the lands of Gascony, and for which reason the King of France ordered his people to seize the lands of Gascony; and then the King of England ordered thither the Earl of Kent, his brother, and others with him, to defend the land.

xviii. Hamon Chickwell, mayor.

Beneit Folsham and John Caustone, sheriffs.

At this time, with the help of Sir Hugh Despencer, on St. Michael's Day, the King seized in his own hand all the lands which the Queen had in England, and removed all her suite, French and other, and allowed her twenty shillings the day. In this year the Queen passed over sea to entreat for peace. At the feast of the Holy Cross, in May, Earl Warren, the Earl of Athol,* and other great men passed over with a hundred ships to the lands of Gascony, for which voyage those of London sent 140 armed men. At the same time, on Tuesday, that is to say, on the fourth of July, there escaped four persons from Newgate at the hour of noon to the Dominican Friars, and killed the porter,

* David de Strabolgie, 11th Earl of Athol, high constable of Scotland.

whose name was Westmill. And on the day of St. Bartholomew following the King was at Dover for three weeks with his Council to arrange his voyage, and had sent over his purveyors, horses, and treasure, and the King had gone aboard to cross over, but by advice of Hugh Despencer he changed his mind, and did not pass over. But he sent in his stead to do homage to the King of France Sir Edward of Windsor, his son and heir, on the Thursday following, before the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. In this year, at night, during the feast of the Nativity of St. Mary, which happened to fall on a Sunday, ten persons escaped out of Newgate, of whom five were brought back, four made their escape to the Chuuch of the Holy Sepulchre and one to the Church of St. Bride, and afterwards they all forswore England.

xix. Hamon Chickwell, mayor.

Gilbert Mordon and John Coton, sheriffs.

At this time it was proclaimed by the King that none should carry letters from the Queen, nor from her son, the heir of England, who were then in the land of France, and if any should carry any letters, he and the person to whom it was sent should be taken up and brought before the King and his council. During this time the Queen wore simple garb

like a lady in mourning who had lost her husband, and the people pitied her much for the efforts which she had made to maintain peace. In this year, on the next Sunday before the day of the conversion of St. Paul, one Sir Roger Belers, a justice of the King and great lord, was killed near Leicester, over which event a great outcry arose, and many people were imprisoned.[1] At this time Sir Henry Beaumont and other great men and powerful were seized and imprisoned by the King because they did not wish to do the will of Sir Hugh Despencer the younger. Then the King, by advice of his counsellors, filled the Tower of London and other castles full of provisions. And Sir Hugh Despencer the younger caused all the carpenters, masons, and artists who were then in London and all round about to make on all the turrets and embrasures in the Tower, and at all the gates, barriers, and wooden towers, of the strongest material

[1] Roger de Belers was barbarously murdered in a valley near Reresby, being then very old, and one of the justices itinerant, by Eustace de Folville, and two of his brothers, whom he had threatened. He is charged with being oppressive and rapacious, and having got estates from other foundations for his own chantry founded by him at Kirby Belers for secular priests. (Nichol's Leicestershire, vol. iii. p. 1, p. 21, and note.)

that could be found in England, also engines and siege machines and other kinds of apparatus at great cost, and gained nothing by it, for his plans were otherwise upset, and all this was done for fear of the arrival of the Queen and her company from abroad. In this year, two days before Candlemas, at night, St. Erkenwold was placed on his new pedestal in the Church of St. Paul's. Then the King ordered that William of Ermine, Bishop of Norwich,[1] should be held a traitor, and the King accused him of being to blame for the Queen and her son remaining in the lands of France. And the common people had much pity for the said William of Ermine, because he was a good man, and had laboured much to maintain the estate of the land. Then was the King at Dover, and messengers of the Pope came there to him, and they returned secretly with their answer so that no one knew their object nor the

[1] William de Ayreminne, Heyremin, Ermine, or Armine, was in so great esteem with Edward II. that he loaded him with preferments. He was made chancellor of England, and afterwards treasurer, at the request of the Queen Isabel, whom he had long privately assisted in her wicked contrivances against her husband. He was appointed bishop of Norwich, July 19, 1325. He died at his house at Charing by London, on Wednesday, March 27, 1336, and was buried in Norwich cathedral before the high altar.

answer they had got. In this year there was great dryness of rivers and fountains, so that there was great lack of water in several places. At this time, before the feast of St. John, the town of Royston, part of Wandlesworth, and the Abbey of Croxton,† near Leicester, were burnt, and other burnings took place at this time in England. At this time, for want of fresh water, the sea came up so far that the water of the Thames was brackish, wherefore many people complained that the beer was salt to taste. At that time, on St. Barnabas's Day, the English conquered the land of Gascony, which the King of France had robbed, so that many people were killed, wherefore the King caused to be proclaimed on St. Margaret's Day that no Frenchman should trade in England nor come into those parts, and in the said proclamation it was enacted that the Queen of England should not be called Queen. At this time all the English who were in France, a large number, were imprisoned in one day. At this time the said Edward, heir of England, and Isabella his mother, Queen of

† This fire, which took place on St. Barnabas Day (11 June), was caused through the negligence of the plumber, who was then mending the leads. The church, cloisters, and adjoining houses were burnt to the ground. (Nichol's Leicestershire, vol. ii. pt. i. p. 153.)

England, gathered to themselves a great force of men and a large navy to come into England, with many people of Hainault. And the King commanded to assemble a great navy, to prevent the return of his son and the Queen and their company. But the English sailors did not wish to prevent their arrival, by reason of the great hate they had towards Sir Hugh le Despencer, and they determined to go away into Normandy, and they arrived there, and robbed and burnt to the great destruction of the land, though many of our Englishmen were killed there. And then on Wednesday before the feast of St. Michael, which fell on a Monday, the Queen of England and her son and Mortimer, with a great company of lords and armed men, arrived at Harwich and Orwell, in Essex, to destroy the enemies of the land.[1]

xx. Hamon Chickwell, mayor. Richard de Rothing,[2] taverner, and Roger Chancellor, sheriffs.

At this time on St. Michael's Day the Queen

---

[1] Queen Isabella arrived at Harwich on the 24th September, 1326, where she was instantly joined by a large body of malecontents, notwithstanding the king's proclamation commanding all men to be ready to resist their landing. (Walsing. p. 123; Fœdera, vol. ii. pt. 1, p. 643, et seq. N. E.)

[2] Stowe says he new built the church of St James at Garlick Hithe, where he was buried.

Isabella and Sir Edward her son sent their letters to the citizens of London that they should help them to destroy the enemies of the land but they had no answer back of their willingness to do so, for fear of the King. Wherefore a letter was sent to London by the Queen and her son and was fixed at daybreak on the cross at Cheapside and copies of the letter besides on windows, to the effect that on Thursday in the feast of St. Denis the citizens should be ready with all their power to destroy the enemies of the land and chiefly Hugh be Despencer, for the common profit of all the realm and that the commonalty should send them their good will. Wherefore the commonalty, gainst the mayor and other great men of the city went to the Dominican friars of London on Wednesday before the feast of St. Luke which was then on a Saturday, and the mayor crying mercy, with joined hands went to the Guildhall and granted to the commons their demand, and the cry was made in Cheapside that the enemies of the King, Queen, and their son should at once quit the city, or stay at their peril. Accordingly on the same day at the hour of noon some people took arms and seized one John Marchal, burgess of the city, who was held as an enemy to the city and a spy of Sir Hugh le Despencer, in his house near Wallbrook and

took him to Cheapside, stripped and beheaded him. On the very same day and at the same hour came Sir Walter Stapleton, who was Bishop of Exeter, and in the year before Treasurer of the King, riding towards his house in Eldedeanslane to his dinner and there he was hailed as a traitor. And he hearing this rode off in flight towards St. Paul's Church, and was there met, pulled from his horse, and taken to Cheapside and there he was stripped and his head cut off. And one of his squires who was a strong man, and whose name was William Wall, fled and was arrested at London Bridge, taken back to Cheapside and beheaded, and another, John de Paddington guardian of the manor of the bishop aforesaid outside Temple-bar, was regarded in an evil light and was beheaded the same day in Cheapside. On the same day towards evening came the choir of St. Paul's and took the headless body of the said bishop and carried it to St. Paul's Church and some one told them that he had died under sentence, wherefore the body was taken to the church of St. Clement outside Temple-bar and those belonging to the church sent it outside, so that women and the wretchedly poor took the body which was naked (except that a woman gave it an old cloth to cover the belly), and burned it in a deserted place without making any hole in the earth, and the squire's

beside it quite naked, without the offices of priest or clerk. And the place is called Lawless Church.[1] On this night was a burgess robbed

[1] On the king's departure from London, where he had unsuccessfully applied for a levy to take the field in his service, he retired westwards towards Bristol, with the intent of taking refuge in Ireland. This circumstance left the populace at liberty; and a number of mechanics of all kinds gathering together, took arms, seized the mayor, threatened to kill him if he would not swear to authorise and observe what they should require; and bound themselves by an association to put all to death, of whatsoever rank or condition they were, that should either oppose the queen or intrench on their liberties. Under pretence of this association they seized, Oct. 15, John Marshal, citizen of London, who had a post under the younger Despencer, cut off his head, plundered his goods, and then went to the bishop of Exeter's house, which they rifled, carrying off his plate, furniture, and other valuable effects. The bishop (whom the king had left guardian of the city) happened to be coming from his country house to town, and, being told of the tumult, summoned the mayor to surrender him the keys of the gates for his assurance. The mayor (Hamond de Chigwell) and the populace, incensed with the imperiousness and injustice of this demand, seized the bishop, and, without respect to his place or dignity, threw him from his horse, dragged him to the great cross in Cheapside, and there beheaded him, together with Sir Richard Stapledon his brother, William Walle, his nephew, and John de Padington, one of his gentlemen. The next day they killed the bishop's treasurer at Haliwell. "Memorandum quod

whose name was John Charlton. Likewise on

idus Octobris, anno domini M°.CCC^mo. viceaimo sexto decollatus fuit dominus Walterus de Stapleton Episcopus Exon. in medio foro Civitatis London per communitatem ejusdem civitatis. Eodem die decollati fuerunt Johannes Marescallus civis ejusdem civitatis et duo armigeri prædicti episcopi. Et in crastino interfectus fuit thesaurarius prædicti episcopi apud Halliwelle extra muros." (MS. Cott. Faustina, A. VIII. f. 163.) Godwin informs us that they buried the bishop in a heap of sand at the back of his house, without Temple Bar. Walsingham says, they threw his body into the river; but the former account seems most consistent with popular malevolence and contempt. The mayor's devotion to the party of the queen was displayed by this act, which even the unbridled licence of the times cannot justify. He was graciously received by the queen, who thanked him "for his late bloody act, which was styled an excellent piece of justice." According to Walsingham, the reason for this animosity of the Londoners against the bishop was, that through his advice the king had fixed the courts of justices itinerant in the city of London, whereby criminals rarely escaped punishment. The queen and her son, when he came to the throne, appearing to regret this barbarous outrage, about six months afterwards caused the bishop's body to be removed to Exeter cathedral, where it was interred (with that of his brother) with due solemnity on the north side of the high altar. Nor was this the only reparation they were desirous of making for such an enormous offence. They instituted an inquiry into the circumstances of the murder, though after a lapse of three years, in consequence of which all those who were in any way concerned in it were condemned and executed.

Thursday following, the manor of Finsbury[1] and of Ivylane which belonged to Master Robert Baldock, Chancellor of the King, were robbed of wines and of all things that were in them and several other robberies took place in the city. Likewise on this same day was the commonalty of London armed and assembled at Leadenhall on Cornhill and the Constable of the Tower there granted to the commons Sir John Eltham, son of the King, and the children of Sir Roger Mortimer, Sir Maurice of Berkeley, Sir Bartholemew of Burghasche, and the other persons who were imprisoned in

[1] The corporation of London holds a great portion of the manor of Finsbury, Fensbury, or Vynesbury, which abuts in part upon the city boundary, by virtue of a lease, dated 22 May 1315, from Robert de Baldok, prebendary of Haliwell and Finsbury, in the cathedral church of St. Paul, at the annual rent of 20s. The lease, which has been renewed from time to time, expired in the year 1867; and the corporation thus held the manor since 1315, or some still earlier period. The corporation appoints the stewards and other officers of the manorial courts; but the manor is not within the jurisdiction of the city. The Finsbury court leet and court baron were holden in the month of October in every year before the senior common pleader, to whose office the stewardship of the manor of Finsbury is incident. Municipal Corporation Report, London and Southwark, pp. 3, 136; and Maitland's London, vol. ii. 1369.

the Tower for the quarrel for which Sir Thomas of Lancaster and other great people were put to death, and those who were rescued were sworn to the commons to live and die with them in this quarrel and to maintain the estate of the city and the peace. And then were sworn and received into the protection of the city the Dean of St. Paul's, the Chancellor of Canterbury, the Dean of Arches, the Abbot of Westminster and of Stratford, all the religious and all the clerks and justices. At this time on the eve of St. Luke the table which Sir Thomas of Lancaster had painted and hung in St. Paul's Church was replaced on the pillar, which table of great strength had been removed from the pillar by a command from the King. At the same time the Dominican Friars took flight because they feared to be maltreated and injured because the commonalty had much opposed them for their proud conduct, inasmuch as they did not behave as friars should. At that time it was commonly said everywhere that Stephen Segrave, Bishop of London, had been found acting as spy with the others who were beheaded and with the justices and others who betook themselves elsewhere into hiding so that no one could find them. At that time no pleas were pleaded in the court of the official of Canterbury nor in the consistory nor before the commissary except

touching matrimony and wills, for fear of creating a disturbance.[1] At that time there was contrived a false letter which was read at the Guildhall in hearing of the people that the King and Queen were reconciled and that the enemies of the land were taken, which was quite untrue. At that time the King in company with his enemies took ship at Bristol so that none knew at that time what had become of him, and on Monday on the Eve of St. Simon and St. Jude. Sir Hugh le Despencer the elder was taken at Bristol, and there drawn, hanged, and beheaded, and his head sent to Winchester, for that he was Earl of Winchester.

[1] From the time of the bishop of Exeter's murder the city was in that excited state that the aldermen and principal citizens dared not oppose the proceedings of the mob, for fear of having their houses broken open, and their goods carried off by night; which was become an ordinary practice. No place, however sacred, was secure against their fury. They surprised the governor of the Tower, sir John Weston, set all the prisoners at liberty, and kept possession of that fortress in the name of Prince John of Eltham. John de Charleton, and many others, had their houses pillaged, and infinite mischiefs were done, not only within the city but in the neighbourhood. The officials and commissaries of the ecclesiastical courts were so terrified that they dared not hold a consistory for a year together; nor the mayor or sheriffs offer to hold their hustings and courts, or hear causes, during that time; an obstruction to justice never known before.

At that time, on Saturday, on the eve of the day of St Simon the Bishop, came the Bishop of Winchester, who had come from the Queen, to the Guildhall. And there he was received to become one of the commons, to live and die with them in the quarrel, and to maintain the franchise. And he brought letters from the Queen and her son that the commons should elect a mayor among them, for before there was no mayor except by the grace of the King, because the mayoralty was lost in an assize of justice. Accordingly thuy elected on the same day one Richard de Betoygne[1] to be mayor, who had then come from the Queen, and who had borne great persecution in the same year from the King and Sir Hugh le Despencer the younger. At the same time Sir Henry of Lancaster and other great men pursued the King in Wales, near Snowdon, so closely that the King gave up his enemies who had led him out of his realm and gave himself up to his loyal people, and there the enemies were taken—Sir Hugh le Despencer,

[1] The mayor (Hamond de Chigwell) was removed by command of the queen, and Richard de Betoyne and John de Gisors appointed guardians of the city, the former whereof was the next day (Nov. 16) sworn into the mayoralty at Westminster. Richard de Betoyne was a member of the Goldsmiths' Company, and M.P. for the city 1327-8. He was buried in the Grey Friars, Newgate Street, now Christ Church.

Sir Robert Baldock, and others in their company, and were brought to Hereford. Likewise, on the Monday following, the Earl of Arundel[1] was beheaded at Hereford, and on the Wednesday after Bernard of Spain, a wine merchant, was beheaded for treason at No Man's Land in London.[2] Likewise, on Monday, St. Catherine's Eve, Sir Hugh le Despencer the younger was drawn, hanged, and beheaded, and his bowels burnt at Hereford,[3] and one Symond

[1] Edmund Fitz-Alan, IX.—8 earl of Arundel. He was seized in Shropshire, with two other gentlemen named Daniel and Micheldene, and though chargeable of no crime, besides that of not deserting the king to join the rebels, the three were beheaded at Hereford, to gratify says Walsingham, the vindictive feelings of Mortimer, who hated them, especially the earl, whose estate at Clun he wanted.

[2] A wealthy merchant, concerned in the farming or collecting of the duty of two shillings a tun on wine, which in those days was thought a grievous burden, though laid only on foreign merchants, by their consent, and in lieu of privileges. He was dragged barefoot out of the city to No Man's Land (a piece of ground containing three acres, lying without the walls on the north part of the city between the land of the abbot of Westminster and the prior of St. John of Jerusalem), and there beheaded by the populace. Carte calls him "Anthony d'Espagne."

[3] He was hanged (Nov. 24) on a gibbet fifty feet high, and his head sent as an agreeable present to the citizens of London, who fixed it with great triumph upon London Bridge. His quarters were sent to other places. (Walsing. p. 125.

Redinge, who had insulted the Queen, was drawn and hanged,[1] and one Master Robert Baldock, who was chancellor of the King, one of the greatest men of the land, had a similar fate. The bishop and prior of Hereford were put in prison.[2] Likewise, on Thursday after dinner on the second day before St Nicolas' Day, the head of Sir Hugh le Despencer the younger was carried in triumph through Cheapside to London Bridge, and there was the head fixed, and then was the King sent to the Castle of Kenilworth under the keeping of Sir Henry, Earl of Lancaster.[3] In this year the Queen and

[1] He was one of the king's household, and executed for speaking too freely of the queen's conduct. (Chronicle of Thomas Rudborne, Monk of Winchester, MS. Harl. 156 f. 188b; Walsing. p. 126.)

[2] Robert de Baldock, chancellor, to whom most of the miseries of the kingdom were imputed, having been brought from Hereford to London, and imprisoned in the bishop of Hereford's house, near Old Fish Street Hill, was taken thence by the mob, and dragged to Newgate, as a place of more security, but the unmerciful treatment he met with on the way caused his death there in a few days in great torment. (Walsing. p. 126.) He was buried in St Paul's Cathedral, May 2, 1327.

[3] By the force of bribes and the assistance of the Welsh, the King was taken, Nov. 16, with Robert de Baldok and Simon de Reding abovementioned, in or near the castle of Llantressan, and was soon after removed to Ledbury, and from thence, before the

her son came to London with a fine company of the great people of the land and of the burgesses of London on the Sunday next before Epiphany, to hold Parliament. Then on Wednesday, St. Hillary's Day, the Archbishop of Canterbury[1] read out at Westminster before all the barons of the land several articles against the King. Wherefore all the people granted and cried out that he should reign no longer, but that his son, the Duke of Guienne, should be made King. So bishops, abbots, priors, Earls, barons, knights, and burgesses were sent to him to Kenilworth Castle to hear his wish, if he was willing to assent to the coronation of his son and depose himself from the throne, and if not, the messengers were to give back their homage for all the land. Then when the messengers were with the King, on the Sunday before the feast of St. Fabian and St. Sebastian, it was cried in Cheapside that all who owed service at the coronation of the King, or who had clearly service to render, should go to the coronation of the new King, Sir Edward, Duke of Guienne,

middle of December, to the castle of Kenilworth, where he remained all the winter in the custody of the Earl of Lancaster.

[1] Walter Reynolds, translated from Winchester 1 Oct. 1313, lord chancellor and lord treasurer; ob. 16 Nov. 1327.

on Sunday, Candlemas Eve. At the same time on Wednesday, in the feast of St. Fabian and St. Sebastian, Sir Walter Reynold, Archbishop of Canterbury, preached at the Guildhall in London, and seven bishops came with him, and there he took the oath with the other bishops, as the gentlemen had sworn before. And since the citizens of London had many accusations against the archbishop, the said archbishop allowed 50 tuns of wine to be given to the city, and besides he gave leave to each man to plead his cause against him on reasonable issues. And then was Sir Edward of Carnarvon sent to the Castle of Berkley from the Castle of Kenilworth for fear that he should be rescued by stratagem and the help of a Dommican friar,[1]

[1] Henry Earl of Lancaster, on account of the great humanity with which he treated his royal prisoner, having been suspected either of pitying his misfortunes, or of favouring the schemes formed for procuring his liberty, the Queen and Mortimer took the King out his custody, and sent him to Berkeley Castle (which was destined to be his last resting place), under the care of Sir Thomas de Berkeley, John de Maltravers, and sir Thomas de Gournay. The Dominicans all over England were very zealous in the King's cause; and Thomas Dunhead, one of that order, and an eloquent preacher, had conspired with many of them to restore him to liberty. Whether his late commission to the Pope (to whom he had been sent by Edward to solicit a divorce from Isabel), and the

whose name was Thomas Dunheved, and several others, of the order who agreed with him, and then was he taken and several others with him and put into prison at York. And then had Sir Edward of Carnarvon these guardians, Sir Thomas of Berkley and Sir John Maltravers, to keep him safely in perpetual imprisonment, and by the advice of certain persons and the assent of his false guardians, he was barbarously murdered by night, as a false and disloyal perjurer.[1]

The said Edward reigned nineteen years and a half, and was buried at Gloucester.

---

general disaffection of his order, rendered him suspected by the Queen, or whether, trusting to the inclinations of the people, who every where lamented the King's fate, he had actually raised (as is said) a body of men for his service, he was seized and imprisoned in Pontefract Castle; where, inciting the other prisoners to make their escape, he was killed, with most of them, in the attempt. (Carte, ii. 384.)

[1] The murder of the unfortunate Edward was perpetrated on the night of the 21st of September 1327 with circumstances of the greatest horror. De la Moor, the faithful servant of Edward II. says that "Many a one woke and prayed to God for the harmless soul which was passing that night in torture." His body was interred without funeral pomp in Gloucester Abbey.

END OF VOL. II.

[Collectanea Adamantæa.]

THE

Chronicles of London.

COLLECTANEA ADAMANTÆA.—X.

THE

Chronicles of London

FROM

44 HEN. III. TO 17 EDW. III.

TRANSLATED FROM A MS. IN THE COTTONIAN LIBRARY,

BY

EDMUND GOLDSMID, F.R.H.S.
F.S.A. (Scot.)

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. III.

PRIVATELY PRINTED.
EDINBURGH.
1886.

M. R.

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
P37156
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.
1899.

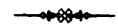
This edition is limited to 400 small-paper copies, and 75 large-paper copies.

THE

Chronicles of London,

FROM

44 HEN. III. TO 17 EDW. III.



EDWARD III.

The names of the Mayors and Sheriffs in the time of Edward the Third, born at Windsor, and other Notable Things that took place at the same time.

i. Richard Betaigne, Mayor. Richard Rothingge and Roger Chancellor, Sheriffs.

Edward of Windsor was made Knight and crowned King all in one day, and was not more than fourteen years of age on St. Bryce's Day last past, and then he held a great Parliament at Westminster. In this Parliament the King

granted to the city of London its franchises which it had lost before, and granted to the city other franchises which no King gave before —that the Mayor should be Justice in Guildhall, and that before him should be accused those who were taken in felony or larceny within the franchise. Wherefore, on the 8th day of May, three men were condemned to death, and were executed on Friday next after the feast of St. John, before the Latin Gate.[1]

[1] The Londoners had been so very serviceable in contributing to the late revolution, that it was thought necessary not only to pardon them for all the robberies, &c. committed since the day of the queen's landing, but also to confirm their ancient liberties, and gratify them with new privileges. (Rot. Cart. 1 Edw. III. m. 5.) The Chronicle of London, preserved in the College of Arms (MS. Arund. No. 19, f. 14b), recites, that on the "vi day of Marche the kynge confermede the libertes and the fraunchises of Lundun. And he grauntede that the meir of Lundun shall be oon of the justicis of Newgate. Also he grauntide that the scherifhoodis schulde go to ferme for thre hundred pound bi yeer, as it was in olde tyme. And also the kynge grauntide that the citezeins of Lundun schulde not be chargid with no man that fledde to holy chirche, neithere thei shulde not be constreyned to go out of the citee of Lundun to no werre but if thei wolde hem self. Also the kyng grauntide the same tyme that the libertees and fraunchises of the citee schulde not after that tyme for no cause be taken awey in to the kyngis hond. Also that same tyme Southewerke

At this time, on Ascension Day, the young King, with a great force of his land, got ready at Newcastle to go against the Scots, and he had 200 horsemen from London, well armed. At this moment the Scots had entered Stanhope Park[2] in England; and when our young King came he pitched his tents and pavilions, and besieged the said park for fifteen days. And for envy which the great people of England had towards the Hainaulters, the Scots by assent escaped out of the park, where they ought all to have been taken, killed, and confounded. And by the assent of some traitors, James Douglas entered into the pavilions of our young King to carry him off into the power of Scotland. But the said James Douglas was descried by the guards in the host and took to flight, and his chaplain, a strong and vigorous man, was arrested and killed.[3] And then the King and

---

was longinge to the schirivis of London for to have to ferme."

[2] In the bishopric of Durham.

[3] Barnes, in his History of Edward III. (p. 14), says, "It is said by a diligent historian (Knighton, p. 2552) of those very days, who had seen and known, and heard King Edward discourse, that Douglas came into the camp by stealth, aiming to find out the king's pavilion, and that being descried by some of the watch, he said always in English, as if he had been one of the rounds, '*No Ward? Ha! St. George.*' And so, not

his people returned to York, and then there arose a great quarrel between the English and the Hainaulters, by which several of our English people were killed in their tents.[4] And from there the King went to Nichol, and there held his Parliament. And then was the death of Sir Edward of Carnarvon, his father, published, who was treacherously murdered in Berkley Castle, as God knows. And then came the Lady Philippa, the daughter of the Count of Hainault, to London, to be married to our young King.[5] And soon after the King was

being questioned, he came at last to the tent royal, where he slew the king's chamberlain, and after that a stout loyal soul, his chaplain, who ran towards the king to wake him, but was slain in the endeavour, as he also interposed his own body to prevent the blow aimed at the king." At p. 16 he states "that Earl Douglas performed that bold action by night in the English camp, by the connivance and underhand assistance of certain in the king's army, of whom Mortimer ought to be accounted chief." There is evidently some confusion in the text.

[4] For on account of this affray and the cause, see Froissart, vol. i. p. 28. Leland (Collectanea, vol. i. pt. 2, p. 307), however, gives a different account.

[5] Philippa, youngest daughter of William III. Count of Hainault, Holland, and Zealand, and lord of Friesland, was married at Valenciennes by procuration. She arrived in London December 23, 1328, escorted by her uncle John of Hainault, with a very honourable train of attendants. A solemn procession of the

married to her at York, and there held his Parliament. Then came messengers from Scotland there to treat for peace, and our young King sent his messengers to the great people of Scotland to know their will.

ii. Hamon Chickwell, Mayor. Henry Darcy and Johan Hautein, Sheriffs.

And then was granted, ordained, and published by proclamation within the two realms, by assent of Queen Isabella, the mother of the King, and of Sir Roger Mortimer and others of their party, that David Bruce, son of Robert the Bruce, once King of Scotland, would espouse Johanna de la Tour,[6] the sister of our young

clergy introduced her into the city, where she was met by the mayor and aldermen in their robes of dignity, who presented her with a service of plate of the value of three hundred pounds, as a marriage gift. Although London was in an uproarious state of rejoicing at her arrival, she set out immediately for York to meet the king, where her nuptials with Edward were solemnised with great pomp on Sunday, January 24, 1328; but she was not crowned until February 18, 1330.

[6] She was so called from being born in the Tower of London; like as John her brother acquired the cognomen of Eltham, from having had that favourite spot for his birth-place. She was afterwards (in derision) called Joan *Makepeace*, from having been married by Queen Isabella and Mortimer to David Prince of Scotland, when they were both children,

King, which espousals took place at York on the Sunday next before the feast of St. Margaret, with great solemnity. And then the Queen Isabella and Sir Roger Mortimer took to themselves the real power over the great people of England and Wales, and kept the treasure of the kingdom between them, and held the young King quite in subjection, to such an extent that Sir Henry, Earl of Lancaster,[7] who was made chief guardian of the King at the commencement of his coronation and by common consent of the whole realm, could neither approach nor counsel him. Wherefore Henry, the said Earl, with the advice of several of the greatest men of the land, of the Archbishop of Canterbury[8] and of the other bishops, made a petition to the Queen Isabella and Sir Roger Mortimer to redress the grievance of the King living on heavy exactions, to the impoverishment of the people, and praying that he might do so henceforth on his own substance.

---

as the cement of an inglorious treaty with that country in 1328. She died without issue in 1357. (See Barnes's Hist. of Edw. III. p. 30.)

[7] He was restored to the dignity of high steward of England; and charged particularly with the care or guardianship of the young king's person.

[8] Simon Mepham. Elected 11 Dec. 1327; ob. 12 Oct. 1333.

iii. John of Grantham, Mayor. Simond Francis and Henry Combemartin, Sheriffs.

In this year our young King passed over sea with a great company to the King of France, to do homage for the lands of Gascony, and did not stay longer, but came back to England and held solemn jousts at Canterbury, and afterwards at Cheape, in London.[9] Up to this there were not so solemn jousts held in England.

iv. Simon Swanland, Mayor.[10]

---

[9] About the feast of S. Mathy, there was very so'emne justing of all the stout earles, barons, and nobles at London in Cheape, betwixt the great crosse and the great conduite nigh Soper lane, which lasted three dayes, where the queene Philippe, with many ladies, fell from a stage, notwithstanding they were not hurt at all: wherefore the queene tooke great care to save the carpenters from punishment, and through her prayer (which shee made on her knees) shee pacified the King and Councell, whereby shee purchased great love of the people." (Stowe's Annales, p. 230.) Further particulars of this tournament may be seen in Barnes's Hist. of Edward III. p. 38.

[10] He appears to have been a draper, as on the Issue Roll of the Exchequer, dated 18th May, 10 Edw. II. we find the following entry: "£13 9 1½ paid to Simon de Swanelound, merchant, by his own hand, in satisfaction of £114 3 4, due to the same Simon for cloth purchased from him, and by him delivered to the Lord the King into his wardrobe, to make mantles for the King's knights, and tunics for his valets, going with him to Scotland; by command of

Richard Lacer[11] and Henry Gisors, Sheriffs.

In this year Philippa, the Queen, was crowned at Westminster, on Sunday in the Carnival. And in the week next following the King held his Parliament in Winchester. And there was Sir Edmund of Woodstock, the Earl of Kent, that Edmund of Woodstock who was son of the former King, brother to the late one, and uncle of the present, soon after put on trial there, whether rightly or wrongly, beheaded and put to death.[12] And thereafter, in the same year, the King held his Council at Nottingham, and there he perceived clearly in different ways that he had foolish counsel, and his realm was on the point of being destroyed, and his people likewise. Wherefore the King took it greatly to heart. For the Queen, his mother, and Sir Roger Mortimer had all the land in their hands, and collected a great host from Wales and England

---

the said Lord the King, under his privy seal, directed to the Treasurer, remaining amongst other writs of Mandamus of Michaelmas term last past." (Devon's Issue Roll, p. 133.)

[11] Richard Lacer or Lancer, mercer. In 12 Edw. III. when the city advanced the king £20,000 for the support of his war in France, he lent him 200 marks. (Fabyan.) He served the office of mayor in 1345.

[12] He was beheaded March 21, 1330, and his estates given to Mortimer's youngest son Geoffrey.

and made a great destruction everywhere where they came, so that there was no woman, wife or maid, in all the country round for forty leagues and more who was not dishonoured and outraged before the eyes of their barons in great despite. And thus they held the King and his brother, Sir John of Eltham, quite in subjection. And at the same time, as God willed, the King with his Council caused Sir Roger Mortimer to be summarily apprehended in his bed in the Castle of Nottingham, and others with him, and had them sent to the Tower of London, for that they purposed to seize the King and his family. And thereafter Sir Roger Mortimer and Sir Symond Bereford, who was of his counsel, were drawn and hanged at London.[13]

[13] In the parliament holden this year at Westminster, on the Monday next after the feast of St. Katherine the Virgin, judgment was passed on Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, "et autre de sa covyne," namely, Simon de Bereford, John Maltravers, Bogo de Bayous, John Deveroil, Thomas de Gournay, and William de Ocle. Mortimer and Bereford were in custody, and both adjudged to death. The former was executed on Nov. 29, 4 Edw. III. (1330). He was condemned "to be drawn and hanged as a traitor and enemy of the king and kingdom." His body, after hanging for two days and two nights by the king's special command, through his favour, was granted to the Friars Minors, or Grey Friars, in London, who buried him in their church, now called

v. John Poultney, Mayor.[14] Robert of Ely and Thomas Horewood,[15] Sheriffs.

Christ Church; whence, many years afterwards, it was translated to Wigmore. Mortimer was the first person executed at Tyburn, which was then known by the name of the Elms. Bereford, who was an accomplice of Mortimer in all his treasons, was also executed at the elms at Tyburn on the Monday next after the feast of Thomas the Apostle following. Only Gournay and Ocle are expressly charged with the murder of the late king. The rest were also adjudged to death; but, not being in custody, rewards were offered for their apprehension. When Sir Robert de Berkeley was called upon in the same Parliament to answer touching the death of the deposed king, in whose custody he was at the time of his death, he defended himself from the charge of any participation in the murder, alleging, that at the time of the king's death he was so extremely ill at Bradley, that his life was despaired of; but he admitted that he placed as keepers of the king, and as ministers under him, the two persons, namely, Thomas de Gournay and William de Ocle, who had been adjudged to be guilty of the murder of the king. Berkeley was honourably acquitted of being accessary to his murder, but as his servants were guilty he was committed to the custody of Ralph de Neville, the steward of the household, to answer for their fidelity in the next parliament. (Rot. Parl. vol. ii. p. 57.) See Archæol. vol. xxvii. p. 274, for a paper entitled, "On the Measures taken for the apprehension of Sir Thomas de Gournay, one of the murderers of King Edward the Second, and on their final issue," by the Rev. Joseph Hunter, F.S.A.

[14] See appendix.

[15] In 12 Edw. III. when the King borrowed

In the same year the King with a great host scoured the districts of Scotland near Berwick, and gave battle to the Scots, and fought foot to foot, and discomfited and killed of the Scots 60,718 men. And when the people of Berwick came after the battle was decided and called with a loud voice to Sir Edward, our young King, that they might have life and limb by his favour, the King granted them life and limb, and they at once gave up the town of Berwick to him, wherefore the whole of England had great joy, and then he returned to England to maintain the peace and punish evil doers.

vi. John Poultney, Mayor. John Mokking and Andrew Aubri, Sheriffs.

vii. John Preston, mayor. Nicholas Pike and John Husband, Sheriffs.

viii. John Poultney, Mayor. John Hamond and William Hansard, Sheriffs.

And in the same year the Duke of Brittany came into England to do homage to our young King to have his lands in England in peace. And in the same year the King made another raid into Scotland, because they did not wish to keep the peace, but ever to war.' And so

---

£20,000 of the city towards carrying on the French wars, he contributed the sum of £100. (Fabyan.)

the King passed along the land, and the Scots always took to flight, so that he could not then come to an encounter. Wherefore the King was much annoyed, and all his people came back to England, and he established the laws and punished the deceivers, destroyers, and evil-doers of his land.

ix. Reynold du Conduit,[16] Mayor. John Hinggestone and Walter Turk,[17] Sheriffs.

---

[16] Reginald du Conduit *(de Conductu)*, or Reignold at Conduit as Herbert calls him, was M.P. for the city in 1321 and 1327, and a member of the Vintners' Company. During the two years of his mayoralty he expended great sums for the honour of the city, to the involving his estate, and prejudice of his family, owing to the cessation of certain perquisites, which former mayors used to receive of foreign merchants resorting hither with the merchandise of their respective countries; which advantages were lost by the frequent wars with Scotland and France; in consideration whereof the king granted the said Reignold an annuity of £21 per annum, arising from divers messuages and shops belonging to the crown in the city. *(Maitland.)*

[17] Member of the Fishmongers' Company, and mayor in 1350. In 12 Edw. III. when the king borrowed £20,000 of the city to carry on his French wars, he contributed 200 marks. He resided in Old Fish Market, died in 1352, and was buried in the church of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey. Stowe gives the following epitaph taken from his monument by Sir Henry St. George, Garter:—

"Hic jacet humatus Walterus Turk vocitatus,
Audax, formosus, pulcher, cives animosus,

x. Reynold Conduit, Mayor. Walter Mordon and Ralph Upton, Sheriffs.

xi. John Poultney, Mayor. William Briklesworth and Johan de Northall,[1] Sheriffs.

xii. Henry Darcy, Mayor.[2]

Pauperibus fomes, piscenarius, vice-comes,
Post aldermannus, qui multos prefuit annos,
Maior.....tarum fuit Londoniarum.
Anno milleno trecento tempore pleno
Exiit omnimodo, quinquagesimoque secundo,
Octobris requiem tricesimoque diem."

[1] The Harleian MS. and Stowe (Survey, b. v. p. 110) give the names of John Clarke and William Curtis as sheriffs. In this year the king granted "that the serjauntis of the meir and of the schirevis shulde bere bifore hem macis of silver and over gilde with the kyng is arms in that oon ende, and the armes of Lundun in that other end." (MS. Arund. No. 19, f. 15b. in Coll. Arm.) There is a record of a petition to the king in Parliament from Nottingham, in Cotton's Abridgement, 8 Edw. III. that no city serjeants, or any but king's serjeants, should bear maces of other metal than of copper, which is granted, with an exception in favour of London. This Grant therefore was a most distinguishing mark of honour conferred on the city. William de Brikelesworth, mentioned as being sheriff this year, contributed the sum of 100*l.* when the king borrowed 20,000*l.* from the city for the purpose of carrying on his French wars in the twelfth year of his reign. *(Fabyan.)*

[2] Member of the Drapers' Company (MS. Harl. 1349, f. 5b.) In 13 Edw. III. he presented a petition to the king stating that he and his predecessors,

Walter Nele[1] and Nicholas Crane, Sheriffs.

In the same year the Scots commenced once more to war against our King, and the King for the third time assembled a great host and scourged the land of Scotland, but he could not come to an engagement, wherefore the King and all his army were much angered. And in returning to England the King laid siege to Dunbar Castle, and remained there for fifteen weeks,[2] until the King of France commenced

---

mayors of London, had been accustomed to receive fifty marks yearly from the foreign merchants resorting hither, towards the support of his mayoralty; but which by occasion of the king's wars in France were now lost. In consideration of which the king by his writ, dated at Kennington, 6 March, commanded the sheriffs of London to pay the said fifty marks from the issues of the farm and bailiwick of the city. (Rot. Claus. 13 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 36, and p. 2, m. 26.)

[1] Bladesmith, a very wealthy man, died in 1352, and was buried in St. James, Garliche Hithe. He left lands to the repairing of the high ways about London, betwixt Newgate and Wicombe, Aldgate and Chelmsford, Bishopsgate and Ware, Southwark and Rochester, &c. (Stowe's Survey.)

[2] According to Holinshed (vol. i. p. 354.) "The king held his christmasse at Gildford, and within the octaves of the same feast he tooke his journie towards Scotland, or rather (as other have) he sent thither the earles of Salisburie, Glocester, Derbie, and Anegos, with three barons, the lords Percie, Nevill, and Stafford, the which with twentie thousand men besieged

in an underhand way to wage war against Sir Edward, our young King. And then messengers were sent to the King of France—namely, the Archbishop of Canterbury,[1] the Bishop of Durham,[2] Sir Geoffrey Scrope,[3] and Sir William Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon,[4] to

---

the castell of Dunbar. This siege began even in the beginning of the twelfth yeare of King Edward's reigne, and continued for the space of nineteene weeks, with small gaine and lesse honour to the Englishmen, in so much that the same brake up under colour of a truce, when there was no hope of winning the place, and that the noble men that laie there at siege hasted to make an end, that they might attend the king in his journie over into Brabant."

[1] John Stratford. Translated from Winchester, 3 Nov. 1333; Lord Chancellor; ob. 23 Aug. 1348.

[2] Richard Aungervyle, *alias* de Bury, dean of Wells, lord privy seal, lord chancellor, and lord treasurer. Appointed 7 Dec. 1333; ob. April 1345, æt. 58.

[3] Sir Geoffrey Scrope, knight banneret, second son of Sir William Scrope of Bolton, purchased the manor of Masham, in co. York, early in the reign of Edw. III. and founded the family of Scrope of Masham. He was appointed serjeant-at-law 9 Edw. II. 1315; justice of the Common Pleas 27 Sept. 17 Edw. II. 1323; and on the 21st March in the following was nominated chief justice of the King's Bench, and again in 2 Edw. III. 1328. He served in the wars of France and Scotland. Died 14 Edw. III. 1340; buried in the church of the Priory of Coverham, co. York.

[4] William baron Clinton (brother of John II. sixth baron Clinton); created Earl of Huntingdon 16

treat for peace between the two kingdoms, France and England, and to offer him great gifts, marriage, and great treasure. And the King of France in no wise wished to assent or grant his accord, but by all means to war and to keep the land of Gascony in his hand, and all the lands which our young King had across the sea. And then when our young King perceived that the King of France did not wish to do otherwise, he sent for all the great men of England and held a Parliament at Westminster, and took counsel to pass over the sea and commit ravages on the King of France, because he was not willing to have peace, and asked aid of all his land, and then they brought him to carry on the war a great treasure and great multitude of armed men, and granted him all the wool of England for two years, to be paid before his departure.

xiii. Henry Darcy, Mayor. William Pountfreit and Hugh Marberer, Sheriffs.

In this year our young King prepared himself with great power of English and Welsh, and passed over the sea from Orwell, in Essex, and arrived at Flanders. And his people passed on before to the island of Cadsand,[1] and killed all

March, 1337; ob. 1354, s. p. when his honours became extinct.

[1] Cadsand, an insulated tract in Flanders, lying

who could be found there, and obtained great substance there, and then burned over the whole island. And then our young King took his host and went away into Brabant, and stayed for a long time at Antwerp, and held his Parliament there, and there were sworn to him the peoples of Flanders, Brabant, Hainault, and Germany, to live and die with our young King in his quarrel against the King of France. Also our young King agreed to be their liege lord, to live and die with them, and defend and maintain them against all people for ever. And when this alliance was made by the agreement of the aforesaid lands, Sir Edward, our young King, led his army away from Antwerp, and commenced to commit raids within the land of the King of France, and burned everywhere, and conquered more than 160 leagues of the land. And there was a certain day fixed for a battle between the two kings. And when the hour before the battle should have been fought was come, the heart of Philip the King of France changed, and he commenced to tremble when he saw all our men

---

between Sluys and Flushing. The town was taken and pillaged by the English on Sunday, Nov. 9, 1337; and when every thing was put on board the vessels, with the prisoners, it was burnt. (Froissart.)

standing ready in the field of battle. So he retreated like a disloyal knight, and said, like a coward, that his heart gave him discomfort in the battle on that day. Wherefore he retreated with his host towards Paris, to his great and eternal disgrace, and to the honour and eternal glory of our King of England. And at that hour Philip of Valois lost the name of being called the King of France, and to Sir Edward, our King, was given the name of being rightly called the King of France and of England, and it was granted by all the chivalry of Christendom.[1] And then our young King, the Duke of Brabant,[2] the Count of Hainault,[3] the Count of Juliers,[4]

---

[1] It was on this occasion that the inscription on the great seal was altered, the title of duke of Aquitaine being left out, as immerged in the greater title of King of France; and that Edward first used the motto of *Dieu et mon droit*, to intimate his right in that kingdom. (Sandford's General. Hist. pp. 157—160.) Edward continued to use the title of King of France until he formally renounced all pretension to the crown of that kingdom by the treaty of Bretigny, on the 8th of May, 1360. (Nicolas's Chronology of History.)

[2] John Duke of Brabant. He obtained from Edward a grant of £1500 sterling a year.

[3] William Earl of Hainault, whose youngest daughter Philippa Edward married.

[4] William 5th Marquess of Juliers; advanced to the title of Earl of Cambridge 7 May, 1340 by Edward III. whose niece Mary, daughter of Raynald,

the Count of Gueldres,[1] and several other great men of different lands returned each to his own country. But before the host separated the Germans despoiled the English of what they had gained on that expedition, and killed many of our men. But Sir Edward our King, and the Duke of Brabant and other great men, made the great quarrel to cease, so that all were agreed. And then the King came to Antwerp, in Brabant, with his people, and stayed there a long time, with the great counsel of all the great men who were sworn to him. And never during this same time did Philip of Valois dare with his haughty insolence to approach our young King. But he said to all who were round him that he would allow him to lie there in peace, and spend as much as he had and more than his kingdom of England could afford, so that he would make him the richest or poorest king in all the world. And then our young King took his leave of the Duke of Brabant and of all the great men who had sworn to him there, in order to

---

second Duke of Gueldres, by Alianor, sister of that monarch, he had married. He subsequently surrendered this earldom into the king's hand.

[1] Raynald second Earl of Gueldres, who married Alianor above-mentioned.

return to England to settle the state of his realm, until a certain hour that he could be better avenged on Philip of Valois King of France. Then our King came back to England, and left in Brabant as hostages Queen Philippa and his children, under the protection of the Duke of Brabant, besides other great men associated with him, and she stayed at Ghent till the return of her lord. And at the same time there were taken William Montague, Earl of Salisbury, and Robert Orford, Earl of Suffolk, and they were taken to Paris in a shameful manner.[1] And then the King of France

[1] According to Froissart, the two earls were made prisoners by the French in the neighbourhood of Lisle, and kept in the market-place there, and afterwards sent to the King of France, who promised that those of Lisle should be well rewarded for the good service they had done him. They were afterwards exchanged for two prisoners of rank taken by the English, viz. the Earl of Salisbury for the Earl of Moray, who was sent to David King of Scotland, and Robert de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, for Charles de Montmorency. Dugdale however observes, "This is a mistake; it was not the Earl of Soffolk who was made prisoner, but his son, Robert de Ufford le fitz, as he was called." It appears that the French would not release the Earl of Salisbury unless he made oath never to bear arms in France; and Edward consented to this extraordinary condition, 20th May, 1342. (Annals of Scotland, ii. 210.)

said to them—"Ah! traitors, you will be hung up, because you cannot make amends for the damage you and your King have done in my land." "In sooth, Sire," said William Montague, "you are wrong, and our King is in the right, and that will I prove against him who will contradict it, like a true knight in a strange land." And then the Queen of France swore that she would never be joyful or happy if they were not miserably put to death. "Sire," said the King of Bearn, "that would be very great damage and folly to kill such lords; for if it happen that the King of England make another raid in your realm of France and take any peer of your realm, one can go in exchange for one of our friends." And so arrived then our lord the King at Harwich, in Suffolk, and came to London before Lent, and there remained, and held his general Parliament at Westminster of all the great men of his land.[1] And to this Parliament came messengers from Scotland to ask peace, but none was granted them. And in the same days Philip of Valois had made all the kinds of ship which man knew how to con-

[1] The king arrived at Harwich on Monday, the 21st February, and issued writs the same day for a parliament to meet on Wednesday, March 29, at Westminster. See Carte, ii. 435.

struct—galleys, pinnaces, large merchantmen, and all the large ships of Spain and Normandy, and everwhere they could be found, to prevent the coming back of our King to his land, and to take and kill all in the realm of England. And at the same time great evil and great destruction was wrought in England. For at the same time the towns of Southampton and Portsmouth were completely burned, robbed, and their goods carried away. And the Castle of Guernsey was taken and the people there killed, by treason of the constable of the said castle.[1] But when our young King heard that,

[1] There was scarcely a war with France, from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century, in which some attempts at invasion were not made. The British coast was much annoyed by the enemy; Southampton was sacked, plundered, and the inhabitants put to death; and the islands of Guernsey and Jersey shared a similar fate. Edward met with some difficulty in negociating with his allies to aid his pretensions by joining in the expedition against France, and during these conferences the French continued their depredations. These islands were but ill provided to defend themselves against so formidable a force as was now employed against them, and were both taken, after a brave resistance. Guernsey remained some time in their hands, till a fleet sent from England with recruits for the king, under the command of Reynold de Cobham and Jeffrey de Harcourt, recaptured the island. It appears that Castle Cornet (probably the

and perceived the great felony and compassing of his enemy, Philip of Valois, he commanded in haste that all his navy of England should be ready, and each be well prepared and victualled for a certain day.

xiv. Andrew Aubry, Mayor.[1] William Thorneye and Roger de Forsham, Sheriffs.

---

castle above alluded to) in this island was taken by one Mauraus, a Frenchman, and held, as some say, for three years; the fact of its reduction is upon record in the Exchequer, anno 12 Edw. III. August 29, 1338. "Memorandum. Quod in festa Nativitatis Beatæ Mariæ, captum fuit Castrum Cornet cum Insula de Geners. Serk, et Aulneray, per Gallos, et in potestate Regis Franciæ." See Berry's Hist of Guernsey, p. 84. It was at this time, and in the attack of Ville d'Eu, that cannon was first used by the English. (Carte, ii. 433.)

[1] He was of the Pepperers' Company, served the office of sheriff in 1331, was mayor in 1339, 1340, and 1351, and one of the burgesses for the city in the parliament held in 1337. He was very wealthy, as we find that in 12 Edw. III. when the king borrowed £20,000 of the citizens for his expedition into France he lent him £800. (Strype's Stowe's Survey, p. 281.) He appears to have enjoyed, to an extraordinary degree, the confidence of his sovereign, and the esteem of his fellow-citizens; the former he no doubt obtained in consequence of the zeal and firmness which he displayed in the preservation of the peace and good order of the city during the three years that he was its chief magistrate. The king, having resolved to go abroad in 1339, granted a commission to the mayor, aldermen,

In this year all the mariners of England, by commission of our lord the King, had all their

---

and commonalty of London for the conservation of the peace in the city during his absence, and invested them with power to cause due and speedy punishment to be done upon any malefactors and disturbers of the peace in the said city. Soon after the king's departure, a contest arose between the companies of the Skinners and Fishmongers, which terminated in a bloody skirmish in the streets. The mayor with his officers hastened to the place of riot and apprehended several of the disturbers of the peace, as required by his office and duty; but Thomas Haunsard and John le Brewere, with some of their accomplices, resisted the power of the magistrates, and not only rescued the malefactors, but Thomas, with a drawn sword, violently assaulted Andrew Aubrey, the mayor, and endeavoured to overthrow him; and, in the meanwhile, the said John grievously wounded one of the city officers. They were, after a struggle, secured, and conveyed without delay to the Guildhall, where they were indicted and tried before the mayor and alderman; having severally pleaded guilty, they were condemned to die, and being forthwith conveyed to West Chepe or Cheapside were there beheaded. This severity of the mayor was so well timed for the preservation of peace within the city, and for preventing the riots and outrages so frequent in those days, that it gave great satisfaction to the king, who, by his writ dated 4th June, 15 Edw. III. at the tower, not only pardoned the mayor for beheading the above parties, but also approved and confirmed the same. (MS. Hargrave, No. 153, f. 1.) Aubrey appears also to have been very popular with the foreign merchants established in

ships assembled and victualled, and in all parts hardy and vigorous men were well prepared and securely armed in each place to live or die. And when the host of the ships of England were assembled in manner above said, Sir Edward our King and his people were in the district of St. Edmund de Bury, and from thence he passed straight to Orwell, and there put to sea with his people, without number, the next Thursday before the nativity of St. John the Baptist, which was on Saturday, and on the Friday morning our King saw his enemies on the sea, and said, "Because that our Lord Jesus Christ was put to death on Friday, we do not wish to shed any blood on this day." Then had the wind been in the east for a whole fortnight before the King put to sea, but by the grace of Him who is almighty, the wind turned meanwhile to the west. Thus by the grace of God the King and his ships had wind and tide to their wish. And so they sailed on till the sun rose in the morning, and he saw his enemies so strongly arrayed that it was a hideous thing to look at them, for the host of the ships of France were so strongly bound together by

---

the city, for they raised among themselves a contribution amounting to fifty marks, which they gave towards the support of his mayoralty. (Heath's Account of the Grocers' Company, p. 176.)

large chains, cables, grapnels, and bars of iron. But for all this Sir Edward, our King, said to all who were round him in the ships of England—"Good Sirs and my brothers, be not a whit abashed, but be all of good comfort, and he who for me shall fight and combat with a good stout heart shall have the blessing of God Almighty, and each man shall have what he can gain." And as soon as our King had said that very many were of eager heart to avenge him on his enemies. And then our sailors drew the sails half-mast, and dragged in their anchors as if they wished to flee, and when the navy of France saw this they freed themselves from their great chains to pursue us. And now our ships turned on them, and the *mêlée* commenced of trumpets, clarions, flutes, drums, and several other kinds of instruments. And then vigorously did our king, with 300 ships, assail the French with 500 great ships and galleys, and eagerly did all our men with great diligence give battle to the French. Our archers and our cross-bowmen commenced to fire as thickly as hail falls in winter, and our engineers threw so hardily that the French had not time to look nor hold up their heads. And while that assault lasted our English men, with a great force, entered into their galleys and fought the French hand to hand, and cast

them out of their ships and galleys. And all the while our King encouraged them to fight bravely against his enemies, against whom Thomas of Winchelsea went in a cog,[1] and at the hour of three came to them a ship of London, which belonged to William Hansard, which did great good in the said battle. For the battle was so fierce and hard that the assault lasted from noon all the day and all the night, and on the morrow to the hour of prime, and when the battle was done no Frenchman remained in life except Spaudefisshe, who fled with 23 ships and galleys.[2] And after gaining

[1] The navy, at this period, consisted of ships, galleys, barges, *batelli* or boats, *snakæ* or cutters, and *cogee* or cogs. See the Observations prefixed to the Liber Quotidianus Contrarotulatoris Garderobæ Anno Regni Regis Edwardi Primi vicesimo octavo, p. liv.

[2] This naval engagement between Edward and the French king, near Sluys in Flanders, took place on the eve of St. John the Baptist. It was the greatest naval victory that Edward gained over the French, 30,000 of whom it is said perished. For an authentic detail of that memorable event see the Chronicle of London, p. 198, for a letter from Edward III. to Edward the Black Prince, extracted from the city archives, Liber F. 1839. This document, Sir H. Nicholas observes, supplies some important facts in the history of the times, whilst its entry among the records of the city of London tends to establish that the mayor of the city was accustomed at that early period to receive an official account of every public transaction.

this great battle Sir Edward, our King, remained stoutly on sea, and wished in no manner to reach land, and there he held his Parliament for an entire fortnight, to see if any of his enemies would any longer assail him. And then our young King arrived on land and rode to Bruges with a very fair company, and there he held a feast for a whole week. And thereafter Sir Edward, our King, took his host, with a very fair company of Dukes, Earls of great power, and commenced to advance into France against the King, Philip of Valois, until he came to the strong city of Tournay, and he besieged the said city with a great host for a quarter of a year—that is, from the nativity of St. John the Baptist till the feast of St. Michael. And thither came to him the Duke of Brabant, with 150 mounted men well armed. The Count of Hainault came with as many, so that his host in circuit covered 17 leagues of the country, which was the fairest host that was ever seen before. And while the siege continued round the strong city of Tournay Sir Robert, Count of Artois,[1] Sir Walter de

[1] Robert d'Artois, Count of Beaumont le Roger, was a prince of the blood-royal of France, descended from Louis VIII. and son of Philip d'Artois, the eldest son of Robert II. count of Artois. In conse-

Manny,[1] Jakes de Artfelde,[2] and several other great men assembled a great host of goodly men, well armed, on horse and on foot, and took their road to the city of St. Omer, and hastily assailed the said city, and commenced to hurl large stones with their engines to destroy the said city. And when those within the city saw the aim of our men outside, they took their

---

quence of a suit regarding the county and peerage of Artois, which he claimed as heir to his father, and which he thought of obtaining through means of forged writings, but was discovered, Philip of France, his brother-in-law, sent him from court in disgrace. After taking refuge at various courts, he was forced to fly, disguised as a merchant, to England, wherein he was very kindly received by Edward, who appointed him one of his counsellors, assigned him lodgings in several castles, and also granted him an annuity of 1200 marks. (Carte, ii. 423, 426.)

[1] See a biographical notice of this distinguished personage in Beltz, "Memorials of the Garter," pp. 110—122.

[2] He was a brewer of Ghent, and a great popular leader in the early part of the 14th century. During the war which broke out between Philip of Valois and Edward III. the burghers of Ghent, a Flemish town that had revolted in favour of the latter king, put down the authority of Louis, then Count of Flanders, and elected Arteveldt for their leader. After ruling Flanders for seven years, he was killed in a tumult which broke out at Ghent between the various trades, in July 1344. (See Froissart, vol. ii. p. 281, et seq.)

counsel to open their gates and give battle to our men. And when our men perceived this they retreated, and suffered with good will a large multitude of men to come out of the city. And when the people were all issued out of the city our men with very good will turned and gave strong battle to the French, and all those who came into the fields met their death by a miserable mischance, for of the French were killed 5210; from whose corpses were collected 95 gold spurs. So that our men pursued the French up to the gate of St. Omer, and there right at the portcullis the French were all killed. And those who were escaped within the gate did not dare to come out of the gate until our men were departed to the siege of Tournay. And all the time that the siege lasted—that is to say, a quarter of a year—our men from day to day made raids on parts of France, and burned and took booty, and knights and esquires of great renown as prisoners, and beasts, corn, and other victuals they took from the King of France, so that the country all round the siege was taken, burnt, and put to destruction. At that hour, as long as the siege lasted, Sir Edward our King made an assault on the said city of Tournay six times in the day with springals and magnels, throwing huge stones, engines with powder, and red fire, so that the

engines with the huge stones broke down the towers and the strong walls, the churches, belfrys, strongholds, fine buildings, and rich habitations throughout the said city of Tournay. And the people within the town were almost destroyed by the great famine that was in the said city. For the water running down a fine river which passed through the said city was cut off and stopped, so that neither horse nor any live animal was kept in life in all the said city: for they were so straightly held in the said city, and the famine was so great, for the quarter of corn was worth four pounds sterling, the quarter of oats two marks, a hen's egg sixpence, and two onions a penny. And our men outside in the siege, throughout the host of the King of England, had gathered great plenty of victuals, wine, bread, flesh of all kinds, so that nothing failed, for which may sweet Jesus Christ be praised. And at the same time those within the city of Tournay wrote a letter to their King, Philip of Valois, that he should aid them with his power in haste, or otherwise it would be necessary for them to surrender the said city to the King of England, for the men that they had in the city were killed, dead, and destroyed, and their victuals all consumed, so that they had nothing on which to live, nor could the city maintain longer to resist his adversary the

King of England. And when their letters were finished they took a youth and dressed him in poor dress like a Jacobin, and entrusted him with their letters to carry them to their King, Philip of Valois, and sent him privily out by a postern. And when he had passed a good two leagues from the city in the early morning, Henry of Lancaster, Earl of Derby,[1] met him out of the road, and had him arrested and questioned, and the youth varied in what he said. And immediately Henry had him searched, and they found the letters on him, and before the King of England they soon brought this Jacobin, and he was put on pain of life and limb to tell all the truth about the strong city of Tournay. And immediately the messenger commenced his answer before the King. "Sire," said he, "of nothing shall I speak falsely. In sooth, all their men-at-arms are killed, and there are not left more than 200 defenders; they have no victuals to sustain them for more than a fortnight." And in the same day the Count of Hainault took a great company with him and foraged for a good 20 miles' distance

[1] Created Earl of Derby 16 March, 1337, vitâ patris; succeeded his father as Earl of Lancaster 1345; was created Earl of Lincoln 1349, and Duke of Lancaster 1351. K. G. Ob. s. p. m. 1361.

from the siege, and took great booty of the beasts of France, and killed armed men in great number, and took 26 knights of the most valiant that Philip of Valois had at that time, and brought them as prisoners to the King of England; of beasts and of victuals they gathered without number. For a man could have a good ox for 40 pence, a pig for 18 pence, a sheep for 12 pence, and bread and wine in great profusion. Blessed be God for it. And when news came to Philip of Valois how he had lost his valiant knights, and how his men had been slain and his beasts and victuals taken and carried to his enemy the King of England, he began to sigh and show great grief. For he did not dare to give battle to our King of England, but, like a coward and recreant knight, made a lady, the Countess of Hainault,[1] his messenger

[1] Jane Countess dowager of Hainault, sister to Philip King of Frnnce, and mother to Philippa Queen of England. It was through her means chiefly that a truce was agreed upon, to endure for a year, between the kings of England and France, and also between them that were in Scotland, Gascoigne, and Poictou. "Hereupon," says Holinshed, "was the siege raised from Tournie, after it had continued there the space of ten weeks and foure daies. They within stood in gaeat danger for lacke of vittels to have been contreined to the surrendring of the towne, if this truce had not been concluded, which caused the French king the

to come to our King and his Council, to beg him to cease from any longer shedding the blood of Christians and destroying their goods, so that peace might be between the two realms, or otherwise a truce according to his will, and as the parties might agree. And the said Philip of Valois granted him in the same time to have in peace Gascony, Poitou, Normandy, Anjou, and all the lands which formerly belonged to any of his ancestors in these districts, which he claimed a right to have, on condition that no slaying of men on land or by sea, no burning, no destruction on one side or the other, took place as long as the truce lasted, and that merchants of each region might with safety pass into any place until a certain fixed date; and that no city, town, or castle should be better victualled in the meantime, nor more filled with men or stronger defences, than they were at the time, according to the terms of the indenture made. And to hold this covenant loyally in the above form Philip of Valois swore by the saints of God, and to hold loyally each point ordained in the agreement between him and our King, and in all things on his part to per-

---

sooner to agree, in like case as the lacke of monie caused the King of England to take his truce, which otherwise (as was thought) he would not have done."

form. And then when they had done this all the prisoners of great rank on the one side and on the other were delivered until a certain day fixed by the said truce, in such a form that, if the peace could be maintained more fully than was contained in the agreement, then all the aforesaid prisoners on one side and on the other, without giving ransom, should be free for ever, and if the parties could not agree by a certain day of the truce which was fixed for peace, then that each prisoner on one side and on another should give himself up on the same day to the prison where he was at first. Then were Sir William de Montague, Earl of Salisbury; Sir Robert de Offord, Earl of Suffolk; and several others, given up and came to the camp before our lord the King returned to England. All these things were ordained by the Council of our lord the King, by the great lords from beyond the sea, who no longer wished to assent to the great war, nor the destruction of the land, nor to the loss of the blood of Christians. And, moreover, our lord the King had no treasure to sustain and pay his men their wages, but at a great loss he had to make raids on credit. For he had nothing of his own proper demesne treasure, nor from the wool which was granted to him by the people of England in aid to maintain his war against the King of France; in all

the time since his former passage, when he conquered his enemies in the battle on the sea, he could have nothing from his treasure out of England by the cunning and craft of wicked traitors who were sworn to his Council.

xv. Andrew Aubrey, Mayor. Andrew Lucas and Bartholomew Denmars,[1] Sheriffs.

Then was the siege of Tournay raised, which had been there for a quarter of a year, and for that our men made great lamentation, for they expected to have had treasure and nobility for ever, and then was it all lost. And when the host was all disbanded, our King with his people took his road till he came to the city of Ghent, and there he sojourned a long time, and held there his Parliament, and took his counsel whether it would be better to sojourn or to return to England. For each week he sent letters to his false governors in England to aid him and succour with his demesne treasure which was granted him from all the commonalty of England. And his false traitors, who were sworn to him, sent back letters saying that the collection of the tithes of England which were granted to him could not be found, and the sum of the sacks of wool in all the realm could

[1] Stowe says his name was "Moris or Maris."

not be levied, and that they did not dare to show more boldness for fear of war, and that the people would rather raise an encounter against him than give more. And the collection of pence which they had received could not suffice for wages nor fees to the sergeants and ministers of the King, nor to acquit the debts they themselves owed for dispensing his bounty to those whom they were assigned to pay by command of the King himself. And when thus they had sent their letters to their liege lord the King, it happened that one of those who was sworn to the King, being more loyal to him than any of the others, and who knew all their private matters and contracts, and privately put them in writing, and all their affair how they had ordered it among them, and knowing that if the King himself did not come privately to England it would be no use for him to send them letters any longer, wrote that no one should know the day or the night when he should enter the Tower of London, and that then he should send after the Mayor of the said city his own armed sergeants, and without any long waiting that certain persons should soon all be taken and brought to him to the Tower, and that the royal blood should not be spared more than any other, and the King should find treasure enough to make war and conquer

his enemies. And when the King heard the letters that came to him, he determined what it would be better to do, and immediately sent for the Duke of Brabant and Jacob de Artefeldt of Flanders, and several others of his Council, and begged them very tenderly, with his hands clasped, that they would be faithful until his return, which would be as soon as he could arrange it. For he had determined to repair to England, by reason that there came no treasure to him to pay his men of what had been granted to him with good heart. And when he had said so, he mounted his palfrey and rode till he came to Ecluse, in Flanders, and there he put to sea and privately came to England. And the next night after St Andrew's Day the King with his company arrived on the land, and with torches lighted entered the Tower of London, which knew not at all of his coming. And immediately he asked for Sir Nicholas de la Beche, then Constable of the Tower and guardian of the Duke, son of the King of England. And the Under-Constable fell on his knees at the feet of the King and said, "Sire he is out of the town." Wherefore the King was very wrath; and he commanded at once to open the doors everywhere, so he could be able to see all the things that were within the Tower. And when the

King had seen all the things he asked hastily for Andrew Aubrey, then Mayor of London, who came at once to speak to him. And when he came to the King he fell on his knees and saluted him, and the King commanded him to rise, and on pain of losing life and limb hastily to bring to him on the same night, without any delay, the Lord de Wake, Sir Johan de Stonore, Sir William de la Pole, Sir Johan de Polteneye, Sir Richard de Wyleby, Master Johan of St. Paul, Master Henry of Stratford, cousin of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Master Michael Wathe, and Sir Johan de Thorp. And all these were taken the same night by the Mayor and the sergeant of the King and led to the Tower of London to the King, and by his commandment were put into different rooms, each one by himself, and over each a guard to keep them safely. And on the next day the King commanded hastily for to bring Sir Nicholas de la Beche, then Constable of the Tower, and Sir Johan de Molins, to him wherever they might be found. And so they did the commandment of the King, and Sir Nicholas de la Beche was found and brought to the King, and Sir Johan de Molins took flight.

---

[1] Edward, after spending some months in fruitless operations before Tournay, retired in sullen discontent.

And whenever that was done, on the Monday next following after St. Andrew's Day, at sunrise, he took his way with certain knights and rode as far as St. Alban's, and took his abode in the Abbey, and asked for the abbot of the house, and commanded him to show him his habitations. And the abbot did not dare to contradict him, but opened the doors everywhere, and showed the King inside. And he kept from showing him a door which was in a secret pinnacle. And the King asked why he

---

By the most urgent messages he required money from England, but the exchequer was unable to satisfy his wants, and, having no means of discharging the arrears of his allies, was compelled to borrow of usurers at exorbitant interest. (Rym. v. 226.) Some of the courtiers improved the opportunity to instil into his mind suspicions of the fidelity of his ministers; and suddenly, without any previous notice, leaving the Earl of Derby and other noblemen in pledge with his creditors, he stole away privately for Zealand, where he found a ship that carried him to England. He landed unexpectedly at the Tower about midnight on the 30th November (Fœd. vol. ii. pt. ii. p. 1141), accompained by the Earl of Northampton, Lord John Darcy, Sir Walter Manny, and other great men, with two chaplains, that were his secretaries, Sir William de Killesby, and Sir Philip Weston; and, finding that fortress but badly guarded, he imprisoned the constable (Sir Nicholas de la Beche) and other officers, and treated them with exemplary rigour. (Ypodigma Neustriæ, p. 513. Holinshed.)

did not open that door. And the abbot answered that he had not the keys. "And who has them?" said the King. And the abbot answered him that the property of Sir Johan de Molins was there for safety, and that he had the keys with him. "By St. Mary my mother," said the King, I shall take my keys." And he made a smith open the locks, and entered and found great possessions and great plenty of treasure, and he kept the abbot with him. And from there he rode in the country round to his private friends to know news from them, and returned back to London. And then were arrested Sir William de Sharshill and Sir John de Chardelow, justices in the King's Bench, as they sat in assize at Canterbury, and were taken to the Tower of London. And then was Sir Thomas Ferreres taken, and they were each put in different rooms. And thereafter were they all separated each from the other to different castles by the counsel of Sir William de Killesby —that is to say, Sir Nicholas de la Beche was sent to the Castle of Tickhill, Sir Johan de Stonore to the Castle of Nottingham, Sir John de Pulteneye to the Castle of Somertone, Sir William de la Pole to the Castle of Devizes, Sir Richard de Willeby and Master Henry de Stratforde, cousin of the Archbishop of Canterbury, were sent to the Castle of Corf, Sir

William de Scharshill to the Castle of Kerfil, Master Michel de Wathe and Sir Thomas Ferreres to the Castle of Windsor, and the others, Sir Johan de Chardelowe, Master Johan de St. Paul, and Sir Johan de Thorp, were put back to prison in the Tower of London. And thereafter the King displaced his treasurer, Sir Rogier de Northburgh, Bishop of Chester, and put in his place a knight, Sir Robert Perninke; and, moreover, he displaced his chancellor, the Bishop of Chichester, brother to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and put in his place a knight, Sir Robert Bouser. And then the King swore his oath that never in his time should a man of the Holy Church be his treasurer or his chancellor, nor in any other great office connected with the King, but such persons, if they were ever attainted of falseness, he would have drawn, hanged, and beheaded.[1] And when he

[1] On the following morning after his arrival at the Tower, the king sent for Robert Stratford, bishop of Chichester, lord chancellor, for Roger de Northburgh, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, lord treasurer, and for such of the judges as were in London. The lord chancellor and the lord treasurer he forthwith discharged of their offices, threatening to send them into Flanders, there to remain as pledges for money that he there owed, or, if they refused to go there, then to keep them prisoners in the Tower. But when the bishop of Chichester declared to him the canon

had done this the King and the Queen, of all the company, removed from London as far as Guildford, and there kept he his Christmas. And from there the King removed to Stokebogeys, which belonged to Sir Johan de Molins, and held a great feast there with all the great men of the country for three days. And from

established against such as imprisoned bishops he suffered them to depart; but the judges, viz. Sir John de Stonore, Sir Richard de Willoughby, Sir William de Shareshull, also Sir John de Poultney and Sir William de la Pole, merchants; and the chief clerks of the chancery, John de Saint Paul, Michael de Wath, Henry de Stratford, and Robert de Chikewell; and of the exchequer, Sir John de Thorp, and many others, were committed to divers prisons; but yet, because they were committed but only upon commandment, they were released shortly after. The chancellor delivered up the great seal on the 1st December; and on the 4th of the same month the king delivered it to Sir Robert Bourgchier, whom he made chancellor (Fœdera, vol. ii. pt. ii. pp. 1141, 1142.); and Sir Richard de Sadington, lord treasurer; all the sheriffs of shires and other officers were removed, and others put in their places. A commsssion for inquiring into the defaults of collectors and other officers employed in the collection of the revenue was likewise issued to certain justices, who proceeded therein with so much strictness that few or none escaped unpunished. (Fœd. vol. ii. pt. ii. pp. 1141, 1142. Holinshed, vol. ii. p. 360.) The king also took a resolution that thenceforth no clergyman should enjoy the high offices of chancellor or treasurer of England.

there he removed as far as Ditton, a very fine manor, which belonged to the said Sir Johan Molins, and then found the King there armour for 80 men, and of vessels and treasure great plenty, which the said Sir Johan de Molins had put into little sacks, well tied, and then in other large sacks, well knotted with cords, and plunged into a deep water, for he intended sure to have come another time for it, but his thought and his purpose were quite disappointed, for the King kept the treasure for himself. And when the King had done that he came back to London on the Wednesday next after the New Year, and held a Privy Council. And then was it ordained to examine and inquire into all the rolls of the offices of the King—that is to say, the treasurer, chancellor, cofferers, justices, sheriffs, and of their clerks, taxers in England, collectors of the tithes and of the wool granted to the King to carry on his war, and of all other ministers, that they should be ready with their rolls on a certain fixed day at Westminster before the auditors appointed by the King, to hold a court of *oyer and termina* throughout all England. And then after the Wednesday next after the Epiphany Sir Richard de Willeby, one of the chief justices of the King, was at the bar of Westminster for two days before six persons, to answer to certain articles on which he was

arraigned by Sir Robert Perninke, Sir Robert de Sadington, Sir William Scot, Sir Thomas le Wake, the Baron of Stafford, and Sir Johan Darcy, who charged him with different points wherein he had acted against his liege lord the King. And the said Sir Richard responded to all their demands, until he became so tired that he could speak no longer, but begged to have aid as a favour, to have a man from the King associated with him to aid him in speaking, to give him ease, and with great difficulty were they willing to grant this request. And when he could no longer endure to answer them, the said Sir Richard put himself into the King's hands, and was sent back to the Tower of London to await the King's pleasure. And in the same night there came such a horrible tempest of wind and rain, of thunder and lightning, that there fell on earth and was wrecked the very fine work of the church of the Grey-friars in London.[1] Thereafter, on the Tuesday

[1] The Church of the Friars Minors or Grey Friars, (now Christ's Church, in Newgate Streeet), was completed in the year 1327, and dedicated to St. Francis, having been twenty-one years in building. It was three hundred feet in length, eighty-nine in breadth, and seventy-four in height. Shortly after its completion, the great western window, having been destroyed in a tempestuous gale of wind, was restored at the

next before the conversion of St. Paul, all the officers in the Court of the King were displaced and removed by Sir William de Killesby, and on the Sunday next following was the cry made in London that each one, high and low, that owed fealty or service to the King should be ready at the Tower of London at the hour of prime, on the second Monday of Lent, before Sir Robert Perninke and his companion justices in eyre assigned. Then were certain points ordained by Sir William de Killesby and others of the Council of the King —first, to inquire about all manners of oppressions, wrongs, damages, grievances, and injuries done by each one of the ministers of the King and on their part against our lord the King and the common people, that is to say, of the justices of one bench and of the other in holding pleas of the forest, of justices in holding assizes and jail deliveries, and of all other justices; also of escheators and sub-escheators, coroners, sheriffs, of their clerks and their servants; of tax gatherers, sub-tax gatherers, and their clerks; of admirals of the navy and of others associated

---

expense of Edward III. for the repose of the soul of the Queen Mother (Isabel), who had recently been buried in the choir. (Trollope's Hist. of Christ's Hospital, p. 10.)

with them; also of governors and constables of castles for keeping the peace, receivers of wool, and of others joined with them; of assessors and sellers of the King's wool, and others aiding them, as allowed at different times; of barons of the King's exchequer, and of the clerks both of chancery and exchequer and other places under the King; of rangers of forests, of their clerks and servants, of collectors of customs, comptrollers, victuallers, bottlers, and their companions; of the receivers of the King's pence in the country, and of those that take care of the revenue; of the seneschals and marshalls, and of their clerks; also of the masters of the King's horse and of their assistants; of the purveyors for the household of the King and for Sir Edward, Duke of Cornwall; of the keepers of gaols,[1] of men at arms, hobelers, and archers, and of those connected with them; of bailiffs in Eyre, and of all other bailiffs whomsoever; also of those who falsely take wool or other merchandise out of the realm without paying custom, and in defiance of prohibition; of those who maintain false pleas in assizes and other false quarrels; also of malefactors within the marches and other places, who are privately

[1] The text has after this, "de choysours traiterousment," which I do not venture to translate.

armed and beat and rob men till they receive a ransom from them; of all manners of oppressions, hardships, grievances done by any person whatsoever, whether archdeacon, dean, official, trustees, or their commissaries and servants; also of those who change money or other goods, or in any other way are usurers; of those that do anything falsely by abuse of their office, or with any other man in the performance of their office share, divide, or seize unfairly. And in that time Trailebastoun disappeared in England, and certain justices were assigned in each county to sit and enquire into all the points before mentioned, and thus was great hardship done to the people throughout England.[1] Thereafter one Griffin of Wales, who had killed the brother and the wife of Jacob of Artefeldt of Flanders, was taken and brought to London Tower and put in a strong prison, and chained with two very heavy gives and manacles. And on Saturday in the octave of Easter he filed down his irons, and broke through the prison and escaped out of the Tower. And a woman, whose name was Ibote atte Knolle, was seized for the said Griffin, felon of the King, because she came to him each day and brought him secretly the things he wished to have, and

[1] See note at p. 29, antea.

accordingly she was put in prison for him. And during Easter the King commenced his general Parliament at Westminster, and the eyre was adjourned until another date when the Parliament should be finished. And at this time Sir Hugh de Audley, Earl of Gloucester, was made a messenger to carry in writing the message of the King and his Council from England to the Parliament of France sitting at the city of Tournay, if Philip of Valois and his Council would give and grant the points comprised in the writing of the message of the King of England to be at peace for ever; and if not, to be ready for war each man for himself, without any respite being given, after the day of the truce taken between the two kingdoms. Then came all the great men of England to the Parliament of the King, but the Archbishop of Canterbury and his brother the Bishop of Chichester, and the Bishop of Chester, were shut out of Parliament for a whole week by the craft of Sir William de Killesby, for anger that was between him and the archbishop. Thereafter, in the second week, the Earl of Warenne came to the Parliament before the King, and found there Sir Robert Perninke, the Baron of Stafford, Sir William Killesby, and Sir Johan Darcy, and others not fit to sit in Parliament, and commenced his words as follows:—"Sir

King, what is wrong with this Parliament? Formerly it used not to be so. It is quite changed into another likeness; for those who ought to be principals are foreclosed, and other people sit here in Parliament who ought not to be at such a Council, but only the peers of the land who can, Sir King, give help and maintenance to our great need. And, Sir King, of this you ought to think." And presently slily Sir Johan Darcy got up and went out, and thereafter Sir William de Killesby and all the others above named, without speaking a word. Then rose the Earl of Arundel and said to the King, "Sire, allow the archbishop to enter before us, and if he can clear himself of certain points he is charged with, well; and if not, we shall settle on what may be best to do." The King assented, and there were put in writing 32 articles against him, and the archbishop denied them all, and said that he was in no whit blameable on any point of which he was accused.

xvi. Johan D'Oxenford, Mayor.[1] The which

[1] Member of the Vintners Company. In 1 Edw. III. he gave to the Priory of the Holy Trinity in London two tofts of land, one mill, fifty acres of land, two acres of wood, with appurtenances in Kentish Town, in value 20*s.* 3*d.* by year. He was buried in the parish church of St. James, Garlick Hithe. (Stowe).

Johan died in the same year, and then was made Mayor Simond Franceis. Richard de Berking, draper, and Johan de la Rokele, grocer, Sheriffs.

And at the feast of St. Michael thereafter, our King assembled a great host of strong men well armed, and all the Navy of England well victualled, in all the districts of Sandwich, Dover, and Portsmouth, and he remained there for two months and more to collect the whole of his host and of the Navy of England. For they were granted to him from the whole land in aid of his war against his enemies. And at the time Philip of Valois had assembled so great a host from out each nation—Basques, Bydouwers, Spaniards, Genoese, and from several other regions, that it would be a hideous thing to tell the sum of people he had assembled against our King Edward, to prevent him coming over sea, but in vain, for battle against our King he did not dare to give. Then our King when he saw the malice and great felony of Philip of Valois, that such a great multitude of men of divers regions had assembled to disturb our King from his coming over sea, then our lord the King commanded speedily his host, which was so noble and splendid, that no king in the world had ever had any such, for he had three hundred of large ships, besides barges and

galleys that had carried victuals, and the fleet of his ships passed on to Portsmouth. Then sailed they all with very great joy from the Coast of England, and took all they could find before them by land and by sea until they came to Brittany, to a place called Little Cornwall, and there our men arrived on land and stoutly arrayed themselves to give battle to their enemies. On the same night that our lord the King arrived on land he came to a royal manor that belonged to a lord of Chalons, and found enough of everything, bnt the men of the manor were all fled, so that they had not a soul left. And there the King and his host met a rich Abbot, who came with cross and mitre to meet him on his knees and crying mercy. And our lord the King granted him his peace. And there was there a very fine forest, in which our lord the King had his amusement, and hunted for a fortnight, and took so much booty of divers beasts that it was wonderful to tell, that is to say, deer, doe, and roe,[1] boar, bear, monkey,[2] and wolf, so great plenty was there that no number could be taken of them. And so he passed with his host for-

[1] "Tor volage" is left untranslated.

[2] The above remark applies equally to the word "Gopil."

city of Nantes, but no damage did he, for he wished not to destroy the said city. But he ward every day into Brittany till he came to the turned against Philip of Valois by another road, to see if he did not dare to give battle in his own land. And then had Philip of Valois caused all the bridges in the country to be destroyed, that our King and his host might not any longer approach him, but like a coward he sent his letters to our King to have truce for three years. And on this point, that there should be 14 wise men of great renown chosen, that is to say, seven for our King, and the other seven for Philip of Valois, to go to the Pope to treat of peace between the two realms of France and England, and to agree. And if not, at the end of the existing truce, to be ready for war to give mortal battle for ever. In such manner was the truce granted on both sides, France and England.

xvii. Simond Franceis,[1] Mayor,

[1] Simon Francis was a wealthy citizen and mercer of London. He served in Parliament for the city in 12 Edw. III. and was so rich that in 1339, when the king borrowed £20,000 towards carrying on his French wars, he lent him £800. (Fabyan.) He resided at the lower end of the Old Jewry. He died in 1358, and by inquisition was found to have died seized of the manors of Northall, Blanchapelton or Whitechapel, Fulham, and Harrow, with other lands

Johan Lovekyn,[1] and Richard de Kesling-

in Acton, Stanmore, Ruislip, &c., besides other manors in Essex and Kent. (Inq. p. m. 32 Edw. III. n. 33.) His arms were: Gules, a saltire between four cross-crosslets or (MS. Harl. 472, f. 10), which remained in the church windows of St. Olave's in the Jewry, St. Stephen's in Coleman Street, and St. Katharine's by the Tower 250 years after, viz. to 1605. MSS. Harl. 1349, f. 6; 1464, f. 8. Stowe's Survey, b. v. p. 175).

[1] John Lovekyn, or Lofken, alderman of Bridge Ward, a man of great wealth and distinction in the annals of London; was a member of the Fishmongers' Company and M.P. for the city in 1347-8 and 1365. He was sheriff of London in 1343-4, and lord mayor in 1348-9, 1358-9, 1365-6, 1366-7. He contributed the sum of £200 when Edward III. borrowed £20,000 of the city for his French expedition in the 12th year of his reign. In 1367 he built the hospital called Magdalen's, at Kingston-upon-Thames, which he well endowed, giving thereunto nine tenements, ten shops, one mill, 125 acres of land, ten acres of meadow, 120 acres of pasture, &c. He also rebuilt the parish church of St. Michael in Crooked Lane on a more enlarged scale than the former building, having obtained for that purpose a grant of some ground contiguous to the site. He died 4th August, 1368, and was buried in the choir of the church last mentioned, under a fair tomb, with the effigies of him and his wife in alabaster. This tomb was afterwards removed, and a flat stone of grey marble, garnished with plates of brass, laid on him. (Weever.) His will is printed in Herbert's Account of the Livery Companies, vol. ii. p. 56. Sir William Walworth was apprenticed to this John Lovekyn.

bury,[1] draper, Sheriffs.

And in the same year our King Edward returned to England, but great distress had been on the sea and all his host, by a horrible tempest, whereby he lost several of his ships and a great part of his men. And on the day after Hokkeday he commenced his Parliament at Westminster with all the great men of England. And then Sir Edward, son of the King, Duke of Cornwall, was made Prince of Wales, by assent of all the great men of England.[2]

---

[1] In 12 Edw. III. when the king borrowed £20,000 of the citizens towards carrying on his French wars he contributed the sum of £200. (Fabyan.)

[2] Edward the Black Prince. When only three years of age, the king by charter dated 18th May, 1333, granted him the earldom of Chester (Rot. Cart. 7 Edw. III. m. 4. Rot. 7. Edw. III. pt. 1, m. 13); and on March 17, 1337, upon the death of John of Eltham earl of Cornwall, the dukedom of Cornwall, investing him by the sword only, which was the first precedent for the creation of the title of duke with us in England. (Rot. Cart. 11 Edw. III. n. 55.) He was afterwards, on May 12, 1343, created prince of Wales, and invested with a coronet, a gold ring, and a silver rod, (Rot. Cart. 17Edw. III. m. 24. n. 27.)

APPENDIX.

SIR JOHN POULTNEY.

The name of this worthy knight is variously written; Nicholas, Clutterbuck, and most of our historians have given the preference to "Poultney." He was the son of Adam de Poultney, by his wife Maud de Napton, and was born at the ancient village of Poutenei or Pultonheith, within the parish of Misterton, in Leicestershire. (Nichols's Leicestershire, vol. iv. p. 316.) He was a person of very great account in his time; much in favour with King Edward III. and is taken notice of by our historians for his piety, wisdom, large possessions, and magnificent way of living. In 1331 the king directed his writ to him as mayor of London, and his escheator, to repair the Temple Bridge for the passage of the clerks in Chancery, and other officers passing to Westminster; to provide that the gates be set open from sun-rising to sun-set; and to pay the costs ensuing thereupon out of the issues of the lands and rents of the Temple

under his care. (Rot. Claus. 4 Edw. III. m. 7, from Fœdera, vol. ii. p. 805.) In 1332 the king at his request wrote to the pope from Woodstock, that his faithful John de Poultney, for expiation of his sins, had erected and dedicated a chantry chapel in honour of the Holy Cross, adjoining to the church of St. Laurence in Candlewick-street, for seven priests to perform divine service there; and desired his holiness to sanction the appropriation of the said church by the abbot and convent of Westminster, to the uses of the chantry priests. (Rot. Rom. 6 Edw. III. m. 4, from Fœdera, vol. ii. p. 841.) In 1335, several ships and armed men assembling together in order to commit hostilities, the king, confiding in the loyalty and vigilance of John de Pultney and Reginald du Conduit, commissioned them to take such forces as he had ordered to be assembled and armed within the city, in order to oppose them. (Rot. Scot. 9 Edw. III. m. 20.) His residence was at Cold Herberghe, near Dowgate, a magnificent house which he had built in the parish of All Hallows the Less, in Thames Street, and which from his occupancy, in the style of the times, long retained the name of Poultney's Inn. This mansion after his death, passing through various hands, came at last to the crown; and in 1485 was granted by Richard III. to the College of Heralds, who had then lately received their charter from him; but Henry VII. willing to annul every public act of his predecessor, gave it to the then Earl of Shrewsbury. It

was pulled down by Earl Gilbert about the year 1600. (Lodge, i. 9. Pennant's London, p. 305.) Besides his foundation of Corpus Christi College in the parish of St. Laurence Pountney, Sir John de Poultney founded the White Friars in Coventry, where his arms, cut in stone, were extant over the gates in Leland's time. (Itin. vol. iv. p. 190.) He likewise built the church of All Hallows the Less in Thames Street (Stowe's Survey, edit. 1633, p. 252). He married Margaret, daughter and heir of John de St. John of Lageham, by whom he had issue one son, Sir William Poultney, Knt., born 1341; died January 20, 1366-7, s. p.

THE END.

Printed by E. & G. Goldsmid, Edinburgh.

JAN 13 1931